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THE TIMES

Why black unrest brings banner headlines, page 16

Steel-Owen alliance moves closer in Commons

The Social Democrats and Liberals in the Commons formed a joint consultative committee yesterday to coordinate parliamentary actions. Dr David Owen signalled the parliamentary birth of the new movement when he challenged the Labour Party, in a debate on defence, to declare their nuclear arms policy.

Joint consultative group formed

By Fred Emery
Political Editor

The 12 Social Democrats and 11 Liberals in the Commons formed a "joint consultative committee" yesterday to coordinate their parliamentary actions. It was the first combined action of what is intended to produce an electoral alliance.

The committee comprises Mr David Steel, Liberal leader, Dr David Owen, chairman of the parliamentary committee of the Council for Social Democracy, and the two whips, Mr Alan Beith (Liberal) and Mr John Roper (Social Democrat). They met yesterday and will begin weekly meetings tomorrow, alternating their premises and the chairmanship. Other MPs will be called in according to the pending Commons business.

Mr Steel said yesterday: "I think it is very important that we be seen to be working together in the House of Commons before we attempt to go outside to the rest of the country". Interviewed on Independent Television's *News at One*, he said: "I have had the impression all through these last few months that the public mood is one of great pressure for us to get together and be seen to form a coherent unit. If we cannot do it in the House of Commons then we cannot do it outside".

Although Mr Steel's aim is something close to a merger by the next election—a view not shared by the Social Democrats—in the short term there are parliamentary advantages in staying apart; speakers from both groups are likely to be called in debates, and they can seek to make the maximum effect by arranging to speak on different days in such debates as the Budget.

The failure to agree joint action in last night's defence debate has not discouraged the participants. It was attempted before the new committee existed. And, in the Liberals' view, it failed because Dr Owen presented them with an amendment with which, in Mr Beith's words, they could agree 99 per cent, but not on the nub, namely the Social Democrats' support for continuing with Polaris, which the Liberals oppose.

Mr Steel intends the Commons committee to be only one forum for advancing the heads of agreement on policy that he wishes to have clear by July. He would then propose it to the full Liberal Assembly in September as the basis for proceeding to an electoral alliance.

Mr Steel is understood to be a little perplexed by the so-called collective leadership of the Social Democrats. Although they have allocated communications to Mrs Shirley Williams, policy coordination to Mr Roy Jenkins, organization to Mr William Rodgers, and parliamentary affairs to Dr David Owen, the line of decision-making is none too clear to the Liberals.

The Liberal leader apparently looked askance at Mrs Williams's sudden withdrawal from a television appearance with him on Monday night, but he is not prepared to be put out. He nows looks to a range of Liberal-Social Democrat meetings and dinners.

Mr Steel is understood to be in favour, in electoral terms, of causing as much confusion as possible to their opponents. He does not envisage a neat carve-up of constituencies between the two parties in eventual alliance, but what he sees as "organic growth" at local level. Already, it seems, one unnamed Liberal local association has approached a social democrat to be their candidate. Although Mr Steel would prefer them to wait until after the party Assembly, he has apparently acquiesced.

As for the local government elections in May, he is understood to be looking to Liberal gains of at least 300 seats, the party's biggest landslide.

But for parliamentary seats the Liberals acknowledge one difficulty, and it is the reason they have been pressing the so-called gang of four to hasten their party formation. The more Liberal candidates selected, the greater the difficulties in arriving at non-aggression pacts locally.

However, Mr Steel believes the electorate wants far more than such non-aggression pacts. In his view they would not be effective enough to swing a majority vote, hence his desire for a near-merger that seems to the voter to be one alliance that could form the next government.

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Social Democratic challenge on arms

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent

Dr David Owen, former Labour Foreign Secretary and one of the leaders of the Council for Social Democracy, yesterday signalled the parliamentary birth of the new political movement when he rose in the Commons to challenge Mr Michael Foot and other leaders of his former party to declare themselves on unilateralism and on their nuclear arms policy.

Only a day after formally ceasing, with 11 other MPs, to be a member of the Labour Party, Dr Owen was supported in the Commons yesterday by seven of the new parliamentary committee of the Council for Social Democracy, including Mr William Rodgers, Labour's former defence spokesman.

Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, came into the Chamber to listen to Dr Owen but Mr Foot absented himself from the Labour front bench. The House filled rapidly as Dr Owen rose nervously to his feet, his hands shaking and clearly somewhat unnerved by the occasion.

Dr Owen plunged directly into his challenge to the Labour front bench. Speaking shortly after Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Defence, and Mr Brynmor John, the Opposition spokesman, opened the debate on the independant strategic deterent and the choice of the Trident missile system as the successor to Polaris, Dr Owen demanded that the Opposition should come clean on its defence policy.

Anyone who spoke in the debate for the Labour Party, he said, must be asked if they were endorsing the commitment to membership of Nato, which accepted a nuclear deterrent.

That question had to be

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Tunnicliffe's art: This picture of a Greenland falcon is typical of the art of Charles Tunnicliffe, whose artistic estate is to be sold by Christie's on May 15. The sale runs counter to the artist's wishes. After the 1974 exhibition of some 300 of his works at the Royal Academy he expressed a wish that his drawings and sketch books should be given to the academy after his death, according to his close friend, Mr Kyffin Williams, RA. He particularly wished that they should remain together.

Report, page 4

St Paul's chosen for July royal wedding

By Robin Young

The Prince of Wales will marry Lady Diana Spencer on Wednesday, July 29, in St Paul's Cathedral. The couple chose St Paul's in preference to Westminster Abbey, the site of many royal weddings this century, because it can seat several hundred more guests.

About 10,000 people crowded into St Paul's for the thanksgiving service at the end of the Second World War. Allowing for modern safety requirements and security arrangements it is hoped that up to 3,000 might be able to attend the royal marriage.

The last wedding of a Prince of Wales was in 1863 when the future King Edward VII married Princess Alexandra of Denmark in St George's Chapel, Windsor. The last Prince of Wales to be married at St Paul's was Prince Arthur, Henry VII's eldest son, who married Catherine of Aragon in 1501 in the old cathedral, which was destroyed in the Great Fire of London.

The Dean of St Paul's, the Very Rev Alan Webster, said yesterday that he had already met the cathedral surveyor and members of the staff to start planning the ceremony. He hoped for "a holy and homely feeling amid the grandeur—a village wedding in the presence of millions of viewers through television".

"It is our intention that St Paul's should be looking at its best, with flowers, banners and glorious music", he added. "We hope too that the procession to St Paul's up Ludgate Hill will be a wonderful sight."

Mr Webster said that 2,500 people attended last year's Christmas services at the cathedral. He hoped to make arrangements for more people to see the ceremony on closed circuit television, perhaps in the crypt.

"If I could share my seat with anyone to see the ceremony I would gladly do so", he said, although he did not expect he would be allowed to.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, will officiate at the wedding, and the music will be planned by Mr Christopher Dearnley, the cathedral organist.

No early announcement is expected on whether the day will be declared a public holiday, although talks between government departments will start soon.

The British Tourist Authority predicted yesterday that the summer wedding would be "the biggest event since jubilee year and a tremendous boost for the tourist industry".

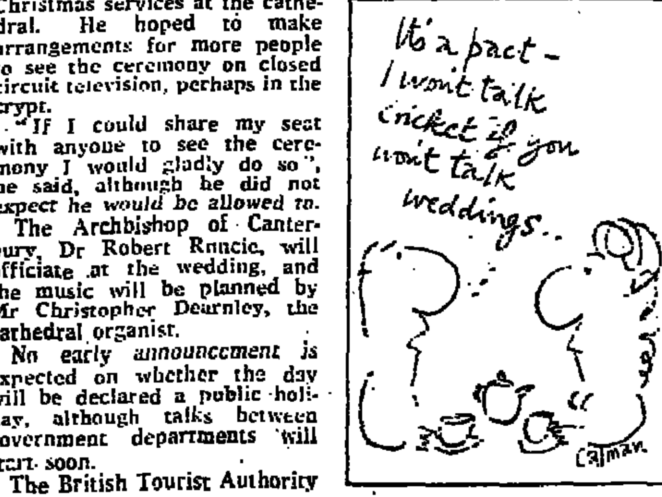
St Paul's already attracts two million visitors a year, and, for the first time in eight years the building is free of scaffolding. Restoration work has been going on slowly since the war, and in 1971 an appeal raised £2½m to repair the fabric. Work will not be finished in all areas in time for the wedding.

The wedding will be the first at the high altar of St Paul's for some years. Mr John Harrison, chief clerk of the Archbishop of Canterbury's faculty office, said he could remember only one other in the past 25 years, that of the daughter of the then Bishop of London, Bishop Stopford.

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, whom the dean described yesterday as "a wonderful royal churchwarden", is patron of the Friends of St Paul's, and the cathedral was the scene for her 80th birthday celebrations last year. "I believe the Prince of Wales feels very much at home when he comes to St Paul's", Mr Webster said.

The town council at Tetbury, Gloucestershire, where the royal couple are expected to live, announced yesterday that it plans to make them a wedding present of new wrought iron gates for Highgrove, the Prince's home.

Buckingham Palace has said that after the wedding Lady Diana Spencer will be known as the Princess of Wales.



Mr Brezhnev stays at top as whole Politburo is reelected

From Michael Binyon
Moscow, March 3

President Brezhnev, the oldest party leader ever to hold supreme power in the Soviet Union, was today reelected General Secretary of the Communist Party for another five years, taking him almost to his eightieth birthday.

His colleagues in the 14-man Politburo were also all reappointed, as were the eight candidate members and the 10 secretaries who head the important party committees overseeing all aspects of political life in the Soviet Union.

It is believed that this is the first time since the Russian Revolution that no change of any kind has been made in the ruling bodies during a party congress.

Mr Brezhnev, who has been in office since 1964 and has steadily accumulated power and honours, remains President of the Supreme Soviet also and thus head of state, undisputed leader of the country despite his frail health.

After a week in which he has heard effusive praise for his personal role in guiding the nation and formulating party policy, he announced the news of his own reelection to the 5,000 delegates attending the final day of the party congress, the fourth over which he has presided.

To shouts of "Glory, glory" as he came into the hall and rhythmic cheering and applause, he read out the list of those elected by the party's new Central Committee, itself reelected with a number of changes last night.

He was shown on television reading out the results, starting with himself and provoking another storm of applause. He then went in alphabetical order through the list of his colleagues, whose average age is nearly 70.

The almost defiant decision not to make any changes was explained later at a press conference by the Soviet official spokesman as the manifestation by the party of its "high approval" of the leadership's activities and its full confidence in the organs of power.

It had been rumoured that the oldest member of the Politburo, Mr Arvid Pelshe, aged 82, might retire, but the man who has been a party member for 65 years and is the only person in the Politburo who knew Lenin stays on.

So do Mr Mikhail Suslov, the 78-year-old ideologue and arguably the most influential man in the Soviet Union, Mr Andrei Kirilenko, aged 74, considered a likely interim successor to Mr Brezhnev, and Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, the 75-year-old Prime Minister who has held that office for less than a year.

It had also been expected that one of the Politburo's candidate members from Transcaucasia—Mr Edward Shevardnadze, party secretary of Georgia, or Mr Geidar Aliev, party secretary of Azerbaijan—might be promoted to full voting membership.

But the candidate members, who include Mr Vasily Kuznetsov, the Soviet Deputy President, who is 80, and Mr Boris Ponomaryov, aged 76, the long-standing and influential party secretary in charge of relations with non-ruling communist parties, remain as they were.

Party rules call for a "systematic renewal" of all organs up to the level of Central Committee and new members were added to this body last night. The committee's total membership was increased from 287 to

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Lord Diplock's report on phone tapping a whitewash, MP says

By Peter Evans
and Frances Gibb

Lord Diplock, chairman of the Security Commission, reported yesterday he was satisfied that there was nothing wrong with the way in which people's letters and telephone calls were intercepted by the police, the Customs and Excise, and the security services.

After monitoring procedures at Mrs Margaret Thatcher's request, he was satisfied that they were working with the minimum of interference with the individual's rights of privacy.

Lord Diplock, who is 73, will continue random checks of applications by the three services for the issue of warrants for interceptions. His future reports wil not be published, although Parliament will be told of any general findings.

Conservative and Labour MPs immediately attacked the report as a whitewash, and as sketchy and inadequate. It would do nothing to allay public fears about abuses in telephone tapping and opening of mail.

Supporters of the clause for statutory controls on tapping, now inserted in the Telecommunications Bill, accused the Government of timing the report's publication to deflect support for the legislation. Mr Kenneth Weetch, Labour MP for Ipswich, said: "The Government has tried to put a finger in the dyke. But I believe it will fail".

Mr Merlyn Rees, a former Home Secretary, welcomed the "clean bill of health" given on the nature of information provided to the Home Secretary.

But there still needed to be a law of privacy and a body to look at computer information.

Mr John Gorst, Conservative MP for Barnet, Hendon North, whose support of the clause for statutory controls on tapping brought about the Government's defeat in the committee stage of the Bill, said: "What this report does not say is that abuses are not happening, cannot, have not and will not happen, and therefore it will not allay people's fears".

Statutory controls in place of guidelines on interceptions were needed.

Mr Weetch described the report as a "whitewash", slender, and inadequate to allay public unease. "It has an apparent haste and lack of thorough scrutiny of an enormously important situation. Does Lord Diplock expect us to believe that all the interceptions that go on in Britain are bona fide and within the limits of the guidelines? I think he believes we were born yesterday."

Mr Roger Darlington, research officer with the Post Office Engineering Union and author of its report last year, *Tapping the Telephone*, said the report was a "bitter disappointment".

Its terms of reference failed to embrace the whole field of unofficial tapping, now taking place on a massive scale; the interceptions under the warrant of the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland; interceptions by foreign agents in Britain; or official tapping that occurs without the Home Secretary's warrant.

The report was a mere six pages. It did not contain a single statistic and failed even to update information on the number of warrants issued. "Lord Diplock has selected a number of cases at random; he does not say how many, or their nature. Far from reassuring people, it strengthens support for legislation."

The National Council for Civil Liberties described the report as "sketchy" and no substitute for legislation. If the Government did not accept the clause in the Bill, it was likely it would be forced to legislate because of a case against Britain pending at the European Commission of Human Rights.

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England are kept waiting for cricket tour decision

By Richard Streeton

A lack of official information from the meeting of West Indian ministers in Barbados about the future of the England cricket tour forced a meeting of the Cricket Council's emergency executive committee at Lord's last night to be postponed until today.

The English officials, waiting in the MCC committee room, were kept informed of the radio and news agency stories from Bridgetown but felt they were unable to discuss the matter until they heard formally from the West Indian authorities.

Mr Peter Lush, the Cricket Council spokesman, said they had been in touch with Mr Alan Smith, the England team manager, by telephone at 7 pm London time and he had been unable to give them any information. A statement first promised for three hours earlier had not materialized and the committee agreed to adjourn until 9.30 am today.

Mr Lush declined to speculate on one rumour that emerged from Barbados—that the West Indian meeting, attended by government representatives from Barbados, Antigua, Montserrat, and Jamaica, would allow the English cricketers to complete their programme but would seek guarantees about the future composition of visiting English sides. These would not be allowed to include anyone with South African connexions.

The Cricket Council's emergency committee will be chaired today by Mr Charles Palmer, the Council chairman.

England in limbo, page 11

Where the Iron Lady takes a hammering

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

Indoctrination of children by teachers who are members of the Socialist Workers' Party was condemned yesterday by Mr Allan Stewart, Conservative MP for Renfrewshire, East, who is a university lecturer.

In a letter to Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, he drew attention to the issue of *Socialist Worker* of February 21 which contained quotations from essays written by children aged between 12 and 14 who live in the Possilpark housing estate in north Glasgow.

The subject given was "The virtues and shortcomings of our Prime Minister". Mr Stewart wrote: "No doubt you will be as appalled as I am to learn that this has been going on at a Scottish school."

The extracts from the essays carried in *Socialist Worker* included:

I hate baggie Maggie because she is an old ughly (sic) hag and she thinks she is beutiful (sic) but she is not ... I would love to spit in her ugly mush ... Maggie Thatcher is a horror. She tries to act snobby and the way she talks bugs the brain ..

I hate Maggie Thatcher because she puts up the prices and she wants to start a war and she has caused a lot of unemployment and the poor are poorer ...

I don't like Maggie Thatcher because she is putting up the prices of milk, bread and cigarettes. She is trying to keep us going to school till we are 18 but dont think I am going to stay on ...

I think that Maggie Thatcher is a disgrace to this country. I think Maggie is unfit to be the prime minister. She should be shot or something like that. Or thrown out of the country...

I don't like Margaret Thatcher. She is money gibbing. She put food, sweets up. She tried to kept us on school. If I had a gun she would be the fursh (sic) one two get kill ... If I was there I would kick her out. Someone should. I hate her. Lots of people hate her ... She is dead mean. If I could get away with murder she would be the first one. ...

I hate her guts. If I ever see her I would knock her goofy teeth straight. ...

The newspaper put in the proviso: "*Socialist Worker* does not necessarily approve of all the words used about Thatcher."

Mr Stewart told Mr Younger: "I fully accept the right of teachers to hold whatever political views they wish. But there has been, as you will know, increasing concern among many teachers and parents about infiltration into the English and Modern studies departments of Scottish schools of a significant number of members of the Socialist Workers' Party and similar extremist groups."

A spokesman for the Scottish Office said last night that Mr Stewart's letter had just been received and a request by him for an investigation by the inspectorate would be considered.

Teacher disciplined: Mr William Harley, chairman of the Strathclyde Regional Council education committee, said yesterday that a male teacher who had sent essays by his pupils at a Glasgow school to the *Socialist Worker* had "certainly been disciplined, and I mean severely disciplined" (Our Glasgow Correspondent writes).

Move to avert strike by civil servants fails

Civil servants' union leaders said they were more determined than ever to embark on what could be a long dispute after the failure of a late attempt by the Government to head off next Monday's one-day strike and the planned campaign of disruptive action. The unions were told there would be no increase in the 7 per cent pay offer Page 2

Front told not to march

Scotland Yard strongly advised the National Front not to go ahead with their planned march past the house in south London where 13 young blacks died in a fire six weeks ago. The Home Secretary will be asked to ban the march if Front leaders decide to go ahead Page 2

Shot girl was used as 'sandbag' court told

A Birmingham labourer accused of murdering a pregnant girl of 16 with whom he had lived objected at his trial in Birmingham Crown Court to the allegation that he used her as a "sandbag" to absorb police gunshots. The girl died later Page 4

Giscard poll tactics

M Giscard d'Estaing is concentrating in his electoral campaign on the issues of stability and security. This may win him back those conservative and Gaullist voters who supported him in 1974 and were disconcerted by the liberalism shown during his first years in office Page 5

Arafat optimism

Mr Yassir Arafat, the leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization, has arrived in Tehran ahead of other members of an Islamic mission charged with attempts to end the Iran-Iraq war. He was "very optimistic" about the outcome of the talks Page 6

Polish clergy's pact

Agreement has been reached in principle in negotiations between the Polish Government and the Church authorities on allowing the clergy access to hospitals, old people's homes and prisons in recognition of the Church's positive role in helping to restore social peace Page 6

Basque truce fails

Fresh acts of terrorism by both extreme right and left-wing groups have dispelled hopes for an end to the wave of violence in the Basque country Page 5

kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel. St Mark 1: 15.

BIRTHS

ARNOTT.—On February 27th at Groundslow Hospital, Staffordshire, to Ruth (nee Pinhorn) and Robert a son (James Alexander Robert).

BARDSWELL.—On 28th February, at home to Sarah (nee Howan) and Nicholas—a son (Charles).

BELL.—On March 2nd, at the Western General, Edinburgh, to Angela (nee Blackett) and Ewan—a son.

BOWMAN.—On Sunday, 1st March, at Harold Wood Hospital, to Elaine and Jeffrey, a son (Christopher James).

CURNOW.—On February 26th, at Elsie Inglis Memorial Maternity Hospital, to Celia (nee Clutterbuck) and Nick—a daughter (Hannah).

FLOYD.—On 28th February 1981, to Pats, (nee Vigors) and Robert, a son (James), a brother for Charles.

FRANCIS.—On 26th January, to Clifford and Diana—a daughter (Sarah Louise Victoria).

GARTLAND.—On Sunday, 1st March, to Muriel and Geoff, at the Welbeck Nursing Home—a son (Benjamin Michael).

KELLNER.—On March 1, to Sally (nee Collard) and Peter, a son (Michael Thomas Nesic), a brother for Tara and Kate.

McGLASHAN.—On 27th February, at Harpenden Memorial Hospital, to Claire (nee Shanahan) and Scott—a son (David James).

MUMFORD.—On February 28th, to Eleanor (nee Weir Breen) and John—a son (James Alexander Crispin).

PHILPOTT.—On February 26th, at Epsom District Hospital, to Anna (nee Clayton) and Adrian—a son, Saul Alexander.

PITCHER.—On March 1st at West Cheshire Hospital, Chester, to Carol (nee Rose) and Desmond, a son (Andrew David).

ROSS.—On February 28th, to Lucy and Clive—a son (Jamie William).

TYNDALL.—On February 27th, to Felicity (nee Wilson) and Bill—a daughter (Juliet Clare).

VENTURAS.—On 1st March, 1981, to Yvonne and Henry—a daughter (Dawn Danaal Mova).

WITHEROW.—On March 2nd to Michele and Ross—a son.

WRIGHT.—On March 1st, 1981, to Maggie (nee Fisko) and Tom, a son (Oliver Thomas Irwin), a brother for Julian, Rosamund and Harriet.

BIRTHDAYS

FLYING TIGER.—Happy birthday. E.

POPE— Happy 18th birthday. Button. Mummy and Daddy.

MARRIAGES

STEVENSON : DE SILVA-KULARATNE.—On February 28th, 1981, at Chelsea Register Office, Louis, son of the late Thomas Stevenson and Mrs Marion Stevenson, of Kirkaldy, Scotland, to Kumi, daughter of Mr Percy De Silva-Kularatne and Mrs Indira De Silva-Kularatne, of Galle, Sri Lanka, and Knightsbridge, London.

DEATHS

ANDERSON.—On February 28th, 1981, Louise Sidney, aged 34 years, after a long illness bravely borne. Dearly loved wife of Thomas and mother of Charles. Funeral at Shoreham Parish Church, near Sevenoaks, on Friday, March 6th, at 2.30 p.m. Flowers and enquiries to Dowsett & Jenkins Ltd., 7 Sunnyhill Rd., Streatham, SW16. Tel: 01-769 0077.

ATKINSON, RONALD, M.A.—On Friday, February 27th, Deputy Head City of Oxford School, at his home Toynbee Court, Timms Lane, Waddington, Lincoln a loving husband, father, and grandfather. Funeral service Wednesday, March 4th at 2.30, St. Michael's Church, Waddington, followed by a private cremation. Family flowers only. Donations in lieu of flowers to Oxfam.

BAIDEN. — On Sunday March 1st, suddenly Frank William, aged 78 of Hinchley Wood, Esher, husband of Pat and father of Robin and Tim. Funeral private. No letters or flowers please, but donations if desired to charity.

BLAIR.—On Friday, February 13, 1981 suddenly at his home, Bolton, Ontario, Canada; Sidney M. Blair M.Sc., LL.D., D. Eng. (Hon) Retired Chairman and President Canadian Bechtel Ltd., Internationally renowned Professional Engineer. Beloved husband of Dr Margaret Milton and the late Nellie Gentlemen. Dear father of S. Robert Blair, Calgary, Alberta; Mona (Mrs Robert Bandeen) Montreal, Quebec. Loving grandfather of Ian, Mark, Derek and Adam Bandeen, Megan (Mrs Alan Roughley), James, Robert, Martin and Charlotte Blair. Dear great grandfather of *Stephen Roughley. Funeral service* was held in Caven Presbyterian Church, Bolton, February 17. Interment Laurel Hill Cemetery, Bolton. If desired memorial donations may be made to the Metropolitan Toronto Geriatric Centre, S. M. Blair Fund, 351 Christie Street, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M6G 3C3.

BRYNLEY, DAVID.—On Saturday, 28th February, aged 79, singer, sometime tenor of the English Singers, of 16 West Street, Corfe Castle, Dorset. A service will be held at Bournemouth Crematorium at 3.45 on Monday 9th March.

CARESS.—On March 1st, 1981, peacefully at her home in Axminster, Devon, Hilda Margaret, in her 89th year. Funeral service will take place at Weymouth Crematorium on Monday, March 9th at 2 p.m. Flowers, if desired, to J. F. Clarke & Son., Funeral Directors, Axminster, Devon. Tel. 32686.

COLCHESTER.—On February 27th 1981, John Sparrow, of Woodpeckers, High Hurstwood, Uckfield, after a long illness so bravely borne. Most beloved husband of Norah Diana, dearly loved father of Jane and Alan, and brother of Cecil, Marion, Elaine. Funeral service at East Chiltington, near Lewes, on Thursday, March 5th at 3 p.m. Inquiries to R. A. Brooks, Funeral Directors, Newick. Tel. 3895.

COLES.—On February 28, 1981, George Edward, aged 78 years, much loved husband of Helen and father of Bobby and Denny. Funeral service today at 12 noon at St. James's Church, Chipping Campden, Glos. Enquiries to D. Ellis, Undertakers. (0386) 840285.

COLLINS.—On February 26th Patrick Maude, beloved wife of Geoffrey Gowen Collins and daughter of the late Peter Murray F.R.C.S. (E), after a long illness. Funeral private.

CUMMINS, JOHN HARRY.—On February 28th, in hospital, beloved husband of the late Betty and of Patsy. Wise and loving father of John Lynch Cummins, Joceline, Newnug, Robert and David. Cherished grandpa of his six grandchildren. Service at Northaw Parish Church on Thursday, March 5th, at 1.45 p.m. Family flowers only. If desired donations in his memory to The Prior, St Raphael's, Barvin Park, Coopers Lane, Potters Bar.

EASTMAN.—On February 27, peacefully at Green Bushes Nursing Home, Dorchester, Agnese Eudora in her 95th year. Widow of Lt-Col. N. I. Eastman, R.M. and Major A. P. Liston Foulis, R.M. and mother of Alistair and Avril. Private Cremation. No letters or flowers please, but donations can be given if wished to Imperial Cancer Research Fund.

FRANKS.—Suddenly on Friday 27th February, Vinnie, beloved wife of Sam and adored mother of Jacquline and David and devoted to her grandchildren and great-grandchild. Funeral Willesden Cemetery, Tuesday 3rd March, 12 noon.

FULLERTON.—On March 1st at home, after a long illness, borne with the greatest courage, Daphne, widow of David Fullerton and dear sister-in-law of Anthony and Evelyn.

GUNN.—Peacefully at Raigmore Hospital, Inverness, on 1st March, 1981, John Norman Gunn, aged 81 years, of 151 Culduthel Rd., Inverness, beloved husband of the late Flora MacLennan and dear father of Zena, Margaret, Dolly & Mima. Service today Tuesday, 3rd March at 7.30 p.m. in the Free Presbyterian Church, Chapel St., Inverness and thereafter funeral tomorrow Wednesday, 4th March at Western Necropolis Cemetery, Glasgow, at 2 p.m. No flowers please.

HAAS.—On 26th February, peacefully after a short illness, Dr Agnes, beloved wife of Dr Ladislav Haas and mother of Dussia and Shura. Cremation at Golders Green Crematorium on Wednesday 4th March, at 3.10 p.m. in Bedford Chapel. Inquiries to Leverton and Sons, 181 Haverstock Hill, Hampstead, N.W.3. Tel. 586 4221.

HAMILTON-COX.—On February 27, at a Malvern Nursing Home in her 93rd year, Dorothy Lilian of Longdon House, Longdon, near Tewkesbury, widow of Lieut-Col Michael Hamilton-Cox. Funeral service at St. Mary's Church, London, on Friday, March 6, at 3.15 p.m. followed by cremation. No flowers by her request but donations if desired to the Worcs Regiment Benevolent Association or to S.A.A.F.A., 16 Silver Street, Worcester.

HARMAN.—On Sunday, March 1st, 1981, peacefully at home, Hester Pamela, the beloved wife of Lancelot Harman. Cremation private. No flowers, but donations to Cancer Research may be sent care of W. J. Franklin and Son, 8 Buckingham Road, Brackley, Northants. Memorial service to be held at St. George's Church, Evenley, on Saturday, March 7, at 12 noon.

HARRIS. — On 27th February, Charles Edward Lilley Harris, of Ware. Dearest husband of Tess and much loved father of Stephen, Angela and Sally. Funeral service at Great Amwell on Thursday, 5th March, at 11 a.m. Family flowers only.

HOLLIDAY.—On February 27th, suddenly after a very long illness, borne with immense courage, serenity and gracious acceptance, at a nursing home, Patricia (Pat) of Kewhurst Ave., Cooden, Bexhill-on-Sea, Sussex. Beloved younger daughter of the late Edward and Caroline Robinson and darling sister of Mary Robinson. Cremation at Eastbourne on Friday, March 6th at 3.30 p.m. Family flowers only please, but donations if desired to Sussex P.H.A.B., C/o Rev. John Corsar, Madehurst Vicarage, Arundel, Sussex.

INGHAM, JOYCE (nee Little).—On 1st March, 1981, suddenly *in Salisbury, Zimbabwe, beloved* wife of Ronald, loving mother of Maureen, Charles, Kevin and Susan. Born Calcutta, 9th September, 1918.

JARVIE.—On 1st March, 1981, at Blackpool Victoria Hospital after a long illness bravely fought, and of 85 Kingsway, Lytham St. Annes, Alexander James Milne (Sandy), beloved husband of Molly and a loving father and grandfather. Funeral service, St. Paul's Church, Fairhaven, Thursday, 5th March at 12.00 noon prior to cremation, Park Crematorium, Lytham, 13.30 p.m. Further enquiries and flowers please to J. & A. Porter, Tel. Lytham (0253) 735423.

KENNARD, MARY HAMILTON, of *Chilfrome House, Dorchester,* peacefully on Sunday, 1st March, aged 88, widow of V. G. Kennard, of Chilfrome, and R. E. Hancock, D.S.O., of Ford. Funeral for family and friends at Chilfrome at 2.30 p.m. on Friday, 6th March.

KENNEDY.—On February 28th, 1981, Reverend Mother M. Ursula, of the Convent of Mercy, Midhurst, aged 85 years. Requiem mass at Midhurst Catholic Church on Monday, March 9th, 1981, at 11.30 a.m. followed by interment at Midhurst Cemetery. All enquiries to L. F. Lintott and Son, Midhurst 3264.

KENYON, HUGH, of Yarrowfield, Mayford, Woking, Surrey.—On 28th February, peacefully, in hospital. Cremation private.

LOVE.—On February 27th in hospital, Helen (Sheena) Love, of Waterlow Court, Hampstead Garden Suburb and formerly of Glasgow, beloved by many friends. Service at Golders Green Crematorium on Thursday, 5th March, at 11.40 a.m. (Bedford Chapel). Flowers may be sent to Leverton & Sons, 624 Finchley Rd., NW11, by 10.30 a.m.

MACPHERSON.—On 2nd March, at home in Aston Sandford, peacefully, George Philip Stewart, "Phil", dear husband of Bettie (nee Cameron Small) and father of Ewen, Roderick and Strone. Funeral service at noon on Friday, 6th March, at St Columba's, 6th March at St. Columba's, Church of Scotland, Pont Street, London SW1. Burial private. His principal interests were the Royal Caledonian Schools, Bushey, Herts. and the Fettesian-Lorettonian Boys' Club, Edinburgh.

MORRIS.—On March 1st, 1981, suddenly, Frank, of the Grey Lodge, Groby, Leicestershire, the beloved husband of Margery and a much loved uncle and great-uncle. Funeral service at Groby Parish Church, on Thursday, March 5th at 2.30 p.m., cremation following at Leicester Crematorium. All flowers and further enquiries to Ginns and Gutteridge Ltd., St. Nicholas House, Vaughan Way, Leicester. Tel.: Leicester 56117.

NEDAS, DORA.—On 1st March peacefully, aged 87 years, beloved wife of the late Harry Nedas and much loved mother of Sybil, Elizabeth and Edna. Funeral private.

NOSSOFF. — On February 26th, 1981, Suddenly in Spain Diana Lucy aged 70 years, beloved wife of Victor, mother of Nigel Scott-Miller and much loved sister of Muriel Joan and Enid.

O'CONNOR.—Peacefully on February 27th 1981, Alison Violet of Harley House, Arundel, 5th daughter of Major and Mrs Peter Marrow of Belhaven Hill, Dunbar, widow of Col. Peter O'Connor, R.E., aged 90. Funeral on Thursday March 5th at 2.30 p.m. at St Nicholas Church, Arundel. Flowers to F. A. Holland and Son, Terminus Road, Littlehampton.

O'REAGAN, DAVID CORNEL.—On February 26th at University College Hospital, London, husband of D'nah, father of Tim and adored grandpa of Dominique and Lucy Anne. Funeral at Barnet Catholic Church, Union St., at 3.00 p.m. Thursday March 5th. Enquiries to Blackwells 01-449 2065. Family flowers only. If desired donations to Barnet General Hospital Post-grad. Medical Centre Fund.

PASKE.—On February 28th 1981, peacefully, Dorothy Millicent, aged 89, widow of Lieut. Col. C. A. M. Paske. Cremation private. No flowers.

PEIRS.—On Friday, February 27th, peacefully, at Fairton House, Ipswich, Eirene, widow of Hugh John Chevallier. Funeral service at Aspall Church, Wednesday, March 4th, at 2 p.m.

PRATT.—On February 27th, peacefully in hospital, Anne Mary Mills, of Hammonds Cottage, West Horsley, most dearly loved by her son Geoffrey. Cremation at Randalls Park, Leatherhead, at 2.30 on Thursday, March 5th. Flowers to James & Thomas Ltd., East Lane, West Horsley.

RECANO.—On February 27th 1981, peacefully at Sackville Nursing Home, Hove, Aileen Avon Recano, mother of Ronda. Service at the Downs Crematorium, Bear Road, Brighton, on Friday March 6th at 3 p.m. No flowers, please, but donations may be sent to The Imperial Cancer Research Fund, c/o Hanningtons, 4/6 Montefiore Road, Hove.

RICE.—Suddenly on 28th February, 1981, at his home, Balvaird Cottage, Muir of Ord, Ross-shire, in his 87th year, Major William George Leonard Rice, MBE, beloved husband of the late Dr Christina Isabella Grant and dear father of Alastair. Service at Aberdeen Crematorium on Wednesday, 4th March, 1981, at 1.15 p.m.

ROBINSON.—On 26th February 1981 and of Norris Road Sale, Cheshire, George Murray, aged 77. Beloved husband of Elsie, loving father of Michael, dear father-in-law of Margrit. Devoted grand-pa of Philip, Tony and Marc. Funeral took place at Southern Cemetery, Manchester, on 2nd March.

ROTHWELL.—On 28th February, 1981, Talbot, peacefully at Worthing Hospital, after a long illness. Funeral service at Worthing Crematorium, Horsham Road, Findon, on Friday 6th March at 12.30. Enquiries to Jordan & Crook, High Street, Worthing. Tel. 32703.

ROWNTREE.—On February 25, 1981, in a motor accident, Abigail May Ruth, aged eight years, most dearly loved daughter of Ruth and Andrew and sister of Matthew. Funeral arrangements later. Inquiries to: Cecil Newling, Funeral Director, 3 Green Drift, Royston, Herts. Tel. 0763 43048.

SMITH.—On February 26th 1981, Bee, late of Strawberry Hill, Ashton-on-Ribble, Preston. So much loved, in particular by Sheila, June and Peter.

SUSSMANN.—On February 28, Martha, aged 94, widow of Sigismund Sussmann, beloved *mother of Madeleine Sriond,* much loved grandmother and great grandmother. Funeral Golders Green Crematorium at 12 noon, Wednesday, March 4. No letters, please. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to British Red Cross or Royal National Institute for the Blind.

THROWER.—On March 1st, 1981, peacefully, at Musgrove Park Hospital, Taunton, William Rayner Thrower, beloved husband of Ruth and father of Harold and Valerie. Funeral Cothelstone Church, Friday, March 6th, 2.30 p.m. Family flowers only; donations if desired to Cothelstone Church.

WEST.—On February 28th, 1981, peacefully at his home, Frank George West, F.R.I.B.A., former city planner with Westminster City Council. Husband of Doris and father of Paul and David. Funeral private, Friday, 6th March at 1.30 p.m. Flowers to A. Yeatman and Sons, 384 Norwood Road, SE27 9AA. Telephone 670 1127.

WESTCOTT, ELSIE ALICE.—On February 28th, peacefully, after a very short illness. Funeral, St Peter and Paul, Chingford, Friday, 6th March, at 11 a.m. Flowers to W. English & Son Ltd., 190 George Lane, Wanstead, E.18.

WHITLEY.—On February 27, peacefully, aged 99, at Hunstanton, Helen, wife of the late Rt. Hon. J. H. Whitley, Speaker of the House of Commons. Funeral service, Thursday, March 5, 2.00 p.m., at Burnham Deepdale Church.

WOODS, SIDNEY WALTER.—Suddenly at home on 23rd February, 1981, aged 72. Funeral at 11 a.m. on 4th March at St. Joseph's, St. Mary Cray, Kent.

WORTLEY.—On February 27, Donald Jocelyn of Bunchfield, Lynchmere, near Haslemere, lately a director of Blue Star Line. Very beloved husband of Vi much loved father of Anne and grandfather of Philip and Christopher. Family prayers only.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

ASHTON.—A service of thanksgiving for the life of Gilbert Ashton will be held in Winchester College Chapel at 12.15 p.m. on Saturday, March 21, 1981.

COWEN.—A service of thanksgiving for the life of John David Cowen will be held at 12 noon on Saturday, 4th April, 1981, at St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, London.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,464

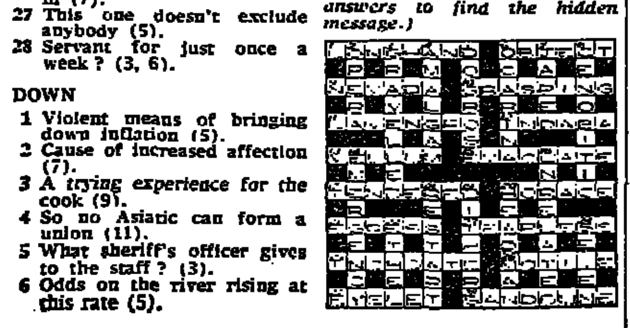
ACROSS

1 Vegetarian party? (9).
6 Capital one put into a three-seater perhaps (5).
9 Where we go for holidays or in leisure periods (7).
10 Could it land this entertainer in the sea? (7).
11 Both sides of the net, what's the principle? (5).
12 Boy poet remembered it doubly when grown up (9).
14 Pronominal heroine (3).
15 Whereby "Beamish Boys Baffled Bandits"? (11).
17 One thing one is not afraid to display (11).
19 Flora's little brother? (3).
20 Girl and a man about to join battle (9).
22 Arrange to include customer's first order (5).
24 Reformed characters? (7).
26 State that a goddess gets in (7).
27 This one doesn't exclude anybody (5).
28 Servant for just once a week? (3, 6).

DOWN

1 Violent means of bringing down inflation (5).
2 Cause of increased affection (7).
3 A *trying* experience for the cook (9).
4 So no Asiatic can form a union (11).
5 What sheriff's officer gives to the staff? (3).
6 Odds on the river rising at this rate (5).
7 Persian's characteristic distance for racing (7).
8 Preceded to the stake—old-*fashioned finish* (9).
13 List 151 people in the lead (11).
14 Craftily constructed? Very neat (9).
16 He doesn't give his services professionally, so to speak (3, 6).
18 Culture lasting into later life (7).
19 Nancy Bell and the robber (7).
21 In Venice a blessing for both donor and recipient (5).
23 Mainly amphibian creeper (5).
25 Kept by a taciturn father (3)

Solution of Puzzle No 15,463 *(Write, in order, the first letters of the sixteen Across answers to find the hidden message.)*



MEMORIAL SERVICES

FARRER.—A service of thanksgiving for the life of Marjorie Farrer will be held on Saturday, March 14th, at 11.30 a.m. at St. Nicholas's Church, Charnwood, Surrey. No mourning or flowers, but donations, if desired, to: International Planned Parenthood Federation, 18 Lower Regent Street, S.W.1.

PEGRUM.—A service of commemoration of the life of Geoffrey David Pegrum will be held in the Chapel of the Holy Cross, Charing Cross Hospital, Fulham Palace Road W6 on Monday, 9th March at 4 p.m.

IN MEMORIAM

BLACKFORD DOUGLAS. — Scots Guards, killed Anzio February 8th 1944, sacred to the memory of him Edith and Charles.

BORUP, LIONEL. — In loving memory of our son, died March 2nd, 1980, on the threshold of achievement.—Mother and Father.

SWORDER.—Erica Ann Sworder killed in the Paris air disaster 3 March 1974. Sadly missed by us all.

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Trade deals make a meal of Polish ham

By Hugh Clayton
Agriculture Correspondent

Ham and sausages are being imported from Poland even though the country faces imminent meat rationing. Meanwhile, cut-price British beef and pigfeed are being sold to *Poland* to ease the meat shortage.

But when Polish pigs fed with cheap British grain return to this country in sliced and cooked form, they attract an EEC tax of 40 per cent to shield Community farmers from undercutting.

Poles eat more meat than most other Europeans, and EEC ministers adopted a plan in December to sell cheap food to Poland from Community surpluses. Britain has contributed more than 100,000 tonnes of cut-price barley to the programme and is about to sell 1,000 tonnes of beef to Poland for less than half of the British wholesale price.

Polish suppliers were among a large contingent from Comecon countries at the International Food Exhibition in London yesterday. They hoped to attract orders from British grocers at the show, which is open only to trade visitors.

Mr Peter Kosmider, sales director of L. Schweizer, a *large British importer of Polish* sausages, said: "I can get all the meats I want. There is extra production available in Poland, and sales in Britain have been on the up and up."

The only shortages in Polish food supplies to Britain had been caused by poor harvests for some fruit and vegetables last year. "Where there are shortages they are not political."

His company's trade leaflet offers 24 types of Polish sausage, and states: "Generous discounts increase your profit margin". Polish ham is sold as it is cut from the joint. Most ham sold in Britain from western producers is either made from compressed chopped meat or is injected with water.

Mr Kosmider said that the EEC tax made Polish ham one of the most expensive in Britain. "The Polish Government did negotiate with Brussels, but we never got to hear of any result."

Czechoslovakia exhibited at the show for the first time. Its long list of goods in the catalogue included horses and feathers as well as poultry, sweets, wines, beer and spirits. *A large Hungarian pavilion* displayed frozen vegetables with the unexpected brand name of Royal Crown.

Girl's £28,000 damages

Kerrie Farrell, aged six, of Salting Road, Snodland, Kent, was awarded £28,000 agreed damages in the High Court yesterday *for injuries suffered* in a road accident in May, 1977.



Photograph by Bill Warhurst

Chia-Chia, London Zoo's giant panda, with Miss Jacqueline Walker, a British Airways stewardess, before leaving for Heathrow yesterday. He flies to the United States tomorrow, where it is hoped he will mate with Ling-Ling, Washington Zoo's female.

Strike about pens halts bus service

From Our Correspondent
Liverpool

An unofficial strike by bus drivers who objected to using their own pens to fill out forms stopped services on 25 routes in St Helens, Merseyside, yesterday.

A hundred drivers employed *by the Merseyside Passenger* Transport Authority bus service at St Helens walked out. They had said they would no longer use their own pens to fill in forms and would stop work if their employers did not supply pens.

When the crews reported for work yesterday they found that the company had supplied pens. But the men then refused to use them and stopped work.

It was the latest in a series of industrial actions in the municipal bus services on Mer*seyside.*

Union power criticized at hearing

Individual workers must be protected against trade union power, a hearing in Strasbourg of the case of *three employees* dismissed by British Rail for refusing to join a trade union was told yesterday.

Mr Joachim Frowein, a member of the European Commission of Human Rights, which sent the case to the European Court of Human Rights after upholding the men's complaint of unfair dismissal, said: "In a country *like the United King*dom, with many trade unions, arrangements going under the broad heading of closed shop *may be perfectly justifiable."*

But he added: "We must be aware of the necessity to protect individual workers against trade union power. It would be a real loss of freedom to declare that someone could be *dismissed after 18 years* because he refuses to join an organization which has among others clearly ideological objectives."

Mr Frowein was speaking at *the start of* a two-day hearing in which Mr Iain Young, aged 27, Mr Noel James, aged 52, and Mr Ronald Webster, aged 67, are *claiming* that the government was in breach of the European Convention on Human Rights by not upholding their freedom of thought, conscience and religion, freedom of expression and freedom of association.

They were dismissed five years ago for refusing to join trade unions after a closed shop agreement was made between the railway unions and British Rail. Mr Webster had worked for British Rail for 18 years.

The government and the TUC will be putting their views *to the court's* 21 judges.

Outlining the commission's case, Mr Frowein *said it* would be difficult to argue that the human rights convention was violated by the mere existence of *closed* shop agreements as they existed in the United Kingdom. However, it was quite a different matter to accept the dismissal of employees who had *worked in an organization for* a long time before closed shop legislation was introduced.

He claimed that was not the general practice *in Britain*, and pointed out that almost two thirds of closed shop agreements in force in the United Kingdom placed no obligation on existing non-members to join a union.

"Trade unions may be among the most important institutions for the preservation of a free democratic society as it exists *in our states." It was certainly* in line with the human rights convention if trade unions were by legislation being protected to mask their position "as trustees of the workers".

The men's case is being backed by the Freedom Association. Mr Norris McWhirter, the Association's vice-chairman, said in Strasbourg *yesterday: "This is a test case of immense* importance because 6,500,000 people in Britain are now in closed shops, and 81 per cent of them want that system dismantled, *according to polls".*

Rail chief's plea for £1,000m extra grant

By Michael Baily
Transport Correspondent

Travellers on commuter rail services in London and the South-east faced a bleak decade unless the present financial restraints, £90m a year invest*ment and* £150m a year in grants, were raised, Sir Peter Parker, chairman of British Rail, told the House of Commons Transport Committee yesterday.

One inevitable consequence would be a contraction in peak hour services resulting in even more overcrowded trains. That would be accompanied by much higher fares, more cancellations and reduced punctuality as equipment wore out, increased road congestion and accidents, and long-term damage to *London* as a *financial* and tourist centre.

There was no way the London commuter services, carrying 500,000 passengers a day over 2,000 miles of track, could be made profitable. "If you want a megalopolis like London you have simply got to face the fact that like other major cities in Europe you have *to make a contract payment to* run it."

British Rail wanted an extra £1,000m investment over the next decade, of which £250m would go on completing electrification and modern signalling, £300m on new rolling stock, £200m on new stations, interchange, and communications, and £250m on more one-man operation.

Stations stay open: British Rail has bowed to pressure from the Greater London Council and amended its plan for cuts in *June by keeping nine London* suburban stations open later in the evenings and abandoning plans to close 15 on Sundays (the Press Association reports).

Anerley and Lee stations will stay open until 10 pm on weekdays. Both stations, toget weekdays. Both stations, together with Bickley, Shortlands, Eltham Park, Lower Sydenham, New Beckenham, Elmstead Woods and West Dulwich, will stay open until 10 pm on Saturdays.

Albany Park, Elstead Woods, Lower Sydenham, New Beckenham, West Dulwich, Shortlands, Westcombe Park, Lee and Bickley, proposed for closure on Sundays, will be kept open. The six stations on the Hounslow *loop service will* have a limited service for 12 hours on Sundays.

Wisley inquiry told of air traffic hazards

By John Young
Planning Reporter

A public inquiry into the proposed reopening of Wisley airfield, Surrey, for general aviation was not competent to consider necessary changes in the air traffic systems affecting Heathrow and Gatwick airports, the inquiry was told at Guildford yesterday.

Mr Harry Zeffert, an aeronautical engineer and a former director of the British Aircraft Corporation's civil aircraft division, said at the start of the *seventh week of the inquiry* that such difficulties might take more than a year to resolve.

Mr Zeffert, who was giving evidence on behalf of the Stop *Wisley Airport residents' group*, pointed out that Wisley lay in an uncontrolled corridor between London and Gatwick. The corridor had a maximum altitude of 2,500 feet, above which the airspace was controlled and used by passenger-carrying aircraft.

The inquiry proceedings had established that no precise knowledge existed of the traffic using the corridor. The safety of Wisley operations depended on that knowledge.

Because of the lack of information, and the uncertainty about future implications, the appeal by Jenstate Ltd against the refusal of planning permission by Guildford Borough Council should be dismissed, Mr *Zeffert said.*

'Exceptional year' gives first LBC dividend

By a Staff Reporter

After a shaky start in 1973, the London Broadcasting Company, Britain's first commercial radio station, is to pay its first dividend on an after-tax surplus of more than £1.28m.

In its report to shareholders yesterday the board recom*mends a dividend of* 30p on preferred ordinary shares and 0.27p on ordinary shares.

The station has been in profit for the last four years, topping the £500,000 mark in 1978-79. It claims an audience of nearly 6,400,000.

Sir Geoffrey Cox, aged 70, the chairman, is to retire at the end of March and will be suc*ceeded by Mr Christopher* Chataway, who was ITN's first newsreader. Mr Chataway, as Minister of Posts and Communications, launched the country's commercial radio network.

Sir Geoffrey said yesterday that last year's exceptional figures, which included an advertising windfall during the independent television strike, would not be repeated this year. Unaudited figures for the first three months showed a fall of £563,000 compared with the same period in the last financial year.

But the board was confident that that would leave the company with sufficient resources to buttress itself against the difficulties independent radio had faced in recent months.

Shortly after it began broadcasting, LBC ran into financial and staffing difficulties and in 1975 had to be bailed out by the Independent Broadcasting Authority

But the latest independent research gives a listening figure 16 per cent greater than the audience for BBC Radio 4, and nearly three times that of Radio London

Classrooms blaze

Three hundred children at Forest comprehensive school, Walsall, West Midlands, were sent home yesterday after a fire swept through a classroom wing. A faulty heater was the suspected cause.

Minister told of health risk in illicit horsemeat trade

By Our Agriculture
Correspondent

Eight local authorities called on the Government yesterday to stop the trade in horsemeat which is sold at *beef. Councillor* Eric Herson, chairman of the environmental services committee of the London borough of Hammersmith and Fulham, said that animal diseases might infect humans if the trade in *unfit and wrongly labelled* meat continued.

He said after a meeting with Lord Ferrers, Minister of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and *Food, that the eight councils* had "uncovered widespread evidence of illicit trade".

Lord Ferrers was told of "widespread unease" felt by many local authorities, and of "the unknown consequences of this practice on public health".

The minister said he would give "urgent and careful atten*tion" to the council's appeal.* It may force the Government to review the working of the Food and Drugs Act.

Mr Bruce Cova, chief Environmental Health Officer at Hammersmith and Fulham, said yesterday that sweeping changes were needed.

His staff are coordinating "Operation Meathook", a nat*ional campaign by health offi*cers to trace sources of meat illegally sold

Jail escape plot 'daring', jury told

By Richard Ford

A helicopter was to be used in a daring plot to free a *man* while he was exercising in Brixton Prison, it was alleged at the Central Criminal Court yesterday when seven people, *including the* prisoner, appeared on a conspiracy charge.

The helicopter would have flown the prisoner to a London park, from where he and his rescuers were to escape to a country house and lie low, it

The plan was said to have was alleged.

been ended after months of observation by detectives who watched several of the alleged conspirators.

The prisoner, Brian Keenan, aged 39, and the other defendants all deny conspiring between March 25 and December 13, 1979, to effect his escape.

The other defendants are Robert Campbell, aged 38, of Holland Park, west London; Margaret Parratt, aged 34, of Southgate, north London; Jacqueline O'Malley, aged 31, of Notting Hill, west London; Richard Glenholmes, aged 47, of Holland Park; Christine Keenan, aged 44, of Northern *Ireland; and Robert Storey*, aged 24, of Holland Park.

Mr Campbell, Mr Glenholmes and Mr Storey also deny three charges of possessing firearms.

"There had been comings and goings at addresses in different parts of London, apparent subterfuge, the use of false names and addresses and changing appearances". Mr *David Jeffreys, for the prosecu*tion said.

A trial run of the attempt to rescue Mr Keenan was being prepared at the time police raided a flat in Holland ark, and arrested four men. False names had been used to rent the flat and hire a helicopter.

When police entered the flat in December, 1979, they found a loaded automatic Browning-type Belgian pistol and, wrapped in a shirt, an "extremely good plan" of Brixton Prison, the jury was told.

It had been drawn by Mr Keenan, who was held in D-wing.

Also found in the flat were a seaman's pass and details of *country houses and addresses* which the prosecution alleges were being investigated as potential refuges for Mr Keenan and his rescuers.

There was a list which mentioned getting a book on birds, alleged to be a code for helicopters, and also notes about bringing something metal on to it [the helicopter].

Mr Jeffreys said that suggested a trial run and that by taking metal on board the rescuers would find out if a metal detector was operating. The conspirators wanted to know whether guns would show up if they carried them.

Handwriting experts said the writing was that of Mr Glen*holmes. The fingerprints of Mr* Campbell were on the paper.

Before the case opened prospective members of the jury had been asked to step down if they, their families or close friends had been the victims of an explosion believed to be caused by a criminal act or had been a member of the security forces in Northern Ireland.

Mr Jeffreys said the escape plan was carefully prepared and daring but in essence it was extremely simple.

"It involved the hiring of a *helicopter* which the Crown suggests would have been hijacked by some of the conspirators, who would then have rescued Mr Keenan by flying into the prison while he was exercising", *he said.*

The case continues today.

Curb sought on helicopter flights over London

By Arthur Reed
Air Correspondent

The use of private and commercial helicopters in central London *should* be phased out over the next five years and helicopter ports taken over by the Greater London Council for emergency services only, the Heathrow Association for the Control of Aircraft Noise said yesterday.

It also urged that the practice of allowing helicopters to pass over central London above the line of the Thames should be stopped immediately. Any helicopter not landing at the Battersea port should be diverted from the congested central area and required to follow such an orbital route as the line of the M25.

The association said the number of helicopter flights in the London area had increased steadily from 900 in 1972 to 1,700 in 1979.

When overflights and emergency flights were added to routine business flights the total of helicopter movements in the area was 14,000 a year.

The association's case was contained in a paper issued to coincide with the opening yesterday of a helicopter port at Trig Lane, on the north side of the Thames between Blackfriars and Southwark bridges. The GLC's decision to grant planning permission should be called in by the Secretary of State for the Environment and be the subject of a full public inquiry, the association said.

The decision to approve the Trig Lane site was "one of the most extraordinary in the growth of helicopters in London", the association said. It was a deplorable choice because of noise pollution.

A diagram accompanying the planning application showed that the site adjoined a prospective school development.

Permission for 3,000 movements a year at Trig Lane was given by the GLC, rising to 5,000 after three years. The association said: "It is ironic that a proposal for 5,000 movements in 1959 was judged to be worthy of ministerial intervention and a *full public inquiry*, yet in 1980 for more extensive operations are being developed without any public consultation."

Actor fined for impersonating a police officer

Anthony Steedman, the television actor, was fined the maximum of £100 in Daventry yesterday for impersonating a *police officer.*

Mr Steedman, aged 53, of London Road, Albourne, Hassocks, Sussex, who plays Dr Butterworth in Crossroads, was also fined £10 for driving without a licence and £10 for failing to produce a certificate of insurance, all of which he admitted.

He was fined £30 for driving without consideration, which he denied.

Miss Katey Rushmore, for prosecution, said Mr Steedman's vehicle collided with another on the M1 near Watford Gap.

Mrs Diane Seisel, driver of the other car, said that Mr Steedman produced an anorak with the word "police" on the pocket.

Miss Rushmore read out a statement by a police sergeant who said Mr Steedman told police he had "done a stupid thing".

Late attempt to head off one-day strike by civil servants fails with no increase in 7% offer

By David Felton
Labour Reporter

A late attempt by the Government to avert next Monday's one-day strike by civil servants and the ensuing campaign of disruptive action failed last night with union leaders saying they were even more determined to embark on what could be a long dispute.

Leaders of unions representing 530,000 white collar staff responded to a call from Lord Soames, Lord President of the Council and minister responsible for the Civil Service, for urgent talks on a new pay bargaining system for next year. But they left the meeting saying the Government had given no guarantees that a system of pay comparability would be in operation for next year's negotiations.

Mr Barney Hayhoe, Minister of State at the Civil Service Department, who met senior union officials, was adamant that the Government was not prepared to increase its 7 per cent offer.

Mr William Kendall, secretary-general of the Council of Civil Service Unions, said after the meeting: "I think this meeting was a last-minute gimmick to stop the industrial action. I now say, 'To hell with it', and our side is not prepared to play games any longer and to have long, tortuous meetings unless there is something on offer."

The nine unions hope there will be strong support for Monday's one-day strike. A programme of disruptive action and selective strikes will start on Tuesday aimed at impeding the Government's ability to collect revenues.

Mr Hayhoe told the unions that he would not exclude the possibility of existing elements in the Civil Service pay agreement, which was suspended last year by the Government, being included in a new system.

These would include pay comparability, arbitration and a fact-finding machinery on which to base any future system, but he said he could not guarantee what form the system would take or whether it would be ready for implementation next year.

Some of the moderate unions place more importance on a settled pay system than on an increase in the 7 per cent offer, but the unions made clear that there would have to be further movement on both aspects for the industrial action to be called off. No further meetings between the unions and the Government are planned.

In another troubled area of the public sector, water and sewerage workers in the North-east last night called off their unofficial strike as the executive of the industry's dominant union met in London and endorsed their negotiators' acceptance of the 13 per cent pay offer.

Leaders of the General and Municipal Workers Union, which has about 20,000 members in the industry, also advised their members taking unofficial action to return.

Last night about 200 workers in Lancashire were still on unofficial strike, and smaller groups in various parts of England and Wales were working to rule or banning overtime.

Mr Ronald Keating, assistant general secretary of the National Union of Public Employees, which is the other main union in the industry, said last night that he would "not put any money" on his 10,000 members accepting the offer.

Workers rejecting the offer have been warned by national union officials that the only alternative is a damaging national strike.

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Police may ask Home Secretary to prohibit demonstration amid fears of racialist explosion

National Front advised to drop march past fire death house

By Lucy Hodges

Scotland Yard strongly advised the National Front yesterday not to go ahead with their planned march on Saturday past the house in Lewisham where 13 young blacks died in a fire six weeks ago.

If Front leaders do not abandon their plan, it is possible that the police will ask Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, to ban the march, which could turn into a racial explosion. That could mean a ban on all marches in London for a period.

Yesterday police also considered what to do about a counter-demonstration which the Anti-Nazi League have asked for on the same day. They met representatives of the Front, who have chosen the theme, "Don't blame the whites for the New Cross fire" for the demonstration.

Mr Martin Webster, national activities organizer of the Front, said that Scotland Yard had put a number of points to him and that they would be considered by the Front's local organizations. A final decision would be taken tomorrow.

The march was intended to be a purely regional demonstration and would attract about 200 to 300 people.

The league said that they had applied to hold a massive counter-demonstration on Saturday because they were disgusted that the Front should be allowed to march past the house where local blacks believe a racialist-motivated fire killed 13.

Scotland Yard said it would carefully consider the matter before a final decision was taken. A spokesman said that this was a "highly emotive time", an obvious reference to Monday's march through central London by thousands of black people in protest at police handling of the fire tragedy.

Mr Russell Profitt, a black Labour councillor in Lewisham, said the Front march should be banned. "It is a predictable but totally unnecessary intrusion into the affairs of Lewisham". Tonight Lewisham's Labour group is to consider whether to ask the police to recommend to the Home Secretary that the march be banned.

Monday's march by West Indians, during which there were 23 arrests and 17 policemen were injured, saddened Mr David Lane, chairman of the Commission for Racial Equality, because of the outbreaks of violence.

The protest showed depth of feeling among blacks about racialist attacks and need for firm action against those who perpetrated them, he said.

Black leaders saw the march as a great success and said they were disgusted by yesterday's coverage in the press.

Banner headlines, page

Ship workers reject 5% and predict clash

By Donald Macintyre
Labour Reporter

British Shipbuilders yesterday dismayed union leaders with an opening pay offer to 70,000 manual workers and staff of 5 per cent, tied to productivity improvements.

The state shipbuilding corporation, which in December declared a half year loss of £57m, told union negotiators in Newcastle upon Tyne that because of the international climate in the industry it could not increase prices to pay for wage increases.

The two sides are to meet again on March 23 after the outright rejection by the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions. Mr James Murray, chairman of the confederation's shipbuilding negotiating committee described the offer as "totally unacceptable".

Under the offer productivity improvements would have to be guaranteed at yard level after local discussions carried out under corporation-wide general guidelines.

Mr Robert Atkinson, the shipbuilders' chairman, said that the corporation had to meet competition if it was to survive and maintain employment. "We cannot afford the luxury of paying ourselves more than we earn. Nothing is for nothing."

The corporation expects to keep its annual loss within the £110m barrier set by the Government, after a £65m increase in its external financing limit granted late last year. It has reached broad agreement with the unions for a cutback of 2,300 jobs over the next three weeks.

Mr Murray said that he expected "a clash" unless there was a better response to the unions' claim.

A modest improvement would bring the cash on offer close to increases of single figures agreed in British Layland and now being pressed by British Airways, and to those agreed for two million workers in private engineering.

After the 13 per cent deal for the water industry, union negotiators in other service industries will, however, be pressing for settlements at least as high.

Branch meetings of 42,000 gas workers are voting heavily in favour of rejecting the industry's latest pay and conditions offer of just over 10 per cent.

Mr John Edmonds, national officer of the General and Municipal Workers' Union, the dominant union in the gas industry, said: "Our members know that gas is a profitable industry. They have good productivity and they believe they are worth a lot more."

Meanwhile negotiators for 94,000 manual employees in the power supply industry are expecting to receive tomorrow a reply to their claim. Mr Frank Chapple, secretary of the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunication and Plumbing Union, says that his members will not accept a settlement lower than that for the miners.

The union is not prepared to go farther in accepting productivity strings or manning cuts

Journalists at 'Observer' and Lonrho to meet

By Our Labour Staff

National Union of Journalists' reprsentatives at *The Observer* are expected to meet Lonrho today after a meeting of their members yesterday which voted in favour of the company's bid to buy the paper being referred to the Monopolies Commission.

In a day-long meeting attended by about 60 members, the NUJ chapel also approved a number of safeguards about which they hope to negotiate with Lonrho, aimed at preserving the editorial independence of *The Observer* under new ownership.

The chapel proposed that an independent Observer Trust should be established, which could be solely or partly financed by Lonrho and "the responsibility of which would be to protect the traditional character of the paper".

Other safeguards discussed by the journalists are thought to include a clause stating that it would be the editor's sole right to determine the editorial content of the paper; some say for the journalists in the choice of editor; and possible representation of journalists at board level.

On the proposal to submit the provisional agreement between Lonrho and Atlantic Richfield, the present owners, to a monopolies commission investigation, Mr Jonathan Hunt, the father (chairman) of the NUJ chapel, said: "We do not see that as anti-Lonrho, we are just seeking to see the law takes its course"

Mr Paul Spicer, a Lonrho director, said last night that he believed the question of editorial safeguards "would not be a problem".

Mr Spicer said he "noted" that both *The Times* and *Sunday Times* NUJ chapels had called for a reference to the Monopolies Commission of the conditional agreement entered into by News International to buy the papers. He said of *The Observer* NUJ decision: "It has not come as a surprise."

He declined to comment on suggestions that the conditional agreement between Atlantic Richfield and Lonrho is being restructured in such a way as to reduce the planned Arco holding in Outram's, the Lonrho subsidiary which controls *The Glasgow Herald*.

Letters, page 17

AUEW may be first to acccept ballot aid

By Our Labour Staff

The Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers may this year become the first union to take up the Government's offer under the Employment Act of cash aid for postal ballots.

Proposals for the move, which would bring the union into conflict with TUC policy, are certain to be debated by the AUEW's policy-making national committee next month.

The union, Britain's second biggest, has a larger bill for internal elections than any other, as all 200 national and local full-time officials are subject to periodic election. Balloting costs exceed £250,000 a year.

The union's right-wing executive has yet to decide whether to take up the money, but several members are understood to be in favour.

Left-wingers on the 91-man national committee would be certain to oppose any executive recommendation to accept the cash, on the ground that it would mean collaboration with the Employment Act.

The committee is expected, however, to have a right-wing majority, and would be likely to endorse any such recommendation if it was made.

Under the proposal outlined in the Act, the Government would contribute to the costs of balloting provided the ballots are shown to be properly conducted. The scheme would be administered by the official Certification Officer.

Aid to Poles: The AUEW executive yesterday entertained to lunch Mr Bogdan Lis, a vice-president of Polish Solidarity, and promised further help of gifts.

Sir John Boyd, the union's general secretary, said the union had sent new office equipment as soon as an appeal was launched by the International Metalworkers' Federation.

Mr Terence Duffy, the union's president, said the Polish visitors had given an emphatic "yes" when asked if AUEW leaders had been right to oppose the planned TUC economic committee visit to Poland last year.

Under-age Pill

Cornwall County Council yesterday decided to allow the contraceptive pill to be prescribed for girls under 16 in care where necessary.

Arbitration move on Sunday theatre show

By Martin Huckerby
Theatre Reporter

The council of Equity, the actors' union, is seeking arbitration over its dispute with Mr Stephen Kendall-Lane, the producer, whose variety show, *That's Showbiz*, has started *Sunday* performances at the Phoenix Theatre, London.

Such performances are outside the union's agreement with the Society of West End Theatre. After a long discussion yesterday the council decided to press for an early meeting of the London Theatre Council, an arbitration body made up of representatives from the union and the society.

Equity remains opposed to Sunday performances unless permission for them has been negotiated in advance, and it is writing to its members performing in *That's Showbiz*.

Mr Peter Finch, Equity's theatre organizer said that while Mr Kendall-Lane was not a member of the society, he was covered by the arbitration procedure because he was a "deposit manager", registered with the London Theatre Council. He hoped a meeting of the council could be held today.

Mr Kendall-Lane started opening on Sundays last weekend because he said the show was doing poor business early in the week but was achieving almost full houses at the weekend.

MPs angered by minister's Ulster statement

By Our Political Staff

Mr Humphrey Atkins, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, yesterday welcomed in the House of Commons the decision by the 439 republican prisoners in the Maze and Armagh prisons to end their so-called dirty protest, which has gone on for three years.

For the Opposition, Mr Dennis Concannon, frontbench spokesman on Ulster, thought the change of tactics was an IRA propaganda exercise and the House should not assist it. Labour would not be pushing Mr Atkins to make further statements.

Mr Anthony Fell, Conservative MP for Yarmouth, had supporting cheers from other backbenchers when he said that a statement of the sort Mr Atkins had made only lent importance to "these criminals" which they did not merit.

Mr James Molyneaux, leader of the Official Ulster Unionists, spoke of the resentment caused by daily bulletins on the condition of convicted prisoners with no corresponding bulletins about their victims.

Parliamentary report, page 8

Photograph by Brian Harris

Miss Rosemary Ludgate, aged 23, (in dark glasses), moving from second place to first in the pancake race in Olney, Buckinghamshire, yesterday. She finished the 415-yard course in 62 seconds, against 65 seconds by Mrs Gillian Brewer, aged 32, who won the linked pancake race in Liberal, Kansas.

Owen challenge to Mr Foot on Trident vote

Continued from page 1

asked, he said, because the party outside the House was committed by conference resolutions to unilateral disarmament.

Referring to a Labour backbench amendment, in effect rejecting a nuclear defence policy, Dr Owen said that was fully compatible with the conference decisions that had been taken.

Later, turning on the absent Mr Foot, Dr Owen said he hoped that the Labour leader (would come to the conclusion that it was not in keeping with his responsibilities to continue to peddle the doctrine of unilateral disarmament.

He challenged Mr Foot to say that he voted against Trident in the full knowledge that were he ever to become Prime Minister he would continue Polaris and would not send cruise missiles back without having put them first in the forum of multilateral negotiations.

But, while challenging Labour's indecisiveness on arms policy, Dr Owen told the House that he would vote against the decision of the Government to go ahead with Trident.

With the Social Democrats voting with the Opposition, the motion endorsing the Government's decision to maintain a strategic nuclear deterrent and the choice of the Trident missile system as the successor to the Polaris force was carried by 316 votes to 248, a majority of 68.

Parliamentary report, page 8

Yorkshire move to end the block voting system

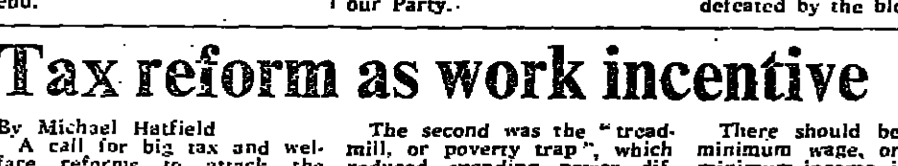
From Ronald Kershaw
Leeds

A call for an end to the trade union block voting system and its replacement by what is said to be a more democratic method of voting will be made at the annual conference of the Yorkshire Regional Labour Party at Bridlington this weekend.

That topic, which was bitterly debated at the Labour Party's special conference in January, is contained in a resolution from Ripon Constituency Labour Party.

The resolution asks the Labour Party National Executive Committee to set up a working party to consider "how trade unions might fulfil their role within the party in a way more democratic than the present block vote system and to put their proposals before the 1981 annual conference".

Mrs Audrey Slee, secretary of the Ripon constituency party said that resolutions at annual conferences that were solely concerned with the activities of constituency parties were often defeated by the block votes.



Tax reform as work incentive

By Michael Hatfield

A call for big tax and welfare reforms to attack the "Why work?" syndrome was sounded yesterday by Mr Ralph Howell, MP for Norfolk, north, and vice-chairman of the Conservative backbench finance committee.

Mr Howell has campaigned for years against disincentives to work caused by the tax system.

He said yesterday that inflation was only a symptom and incentives.

The dilemma comprised two distinct but closely related phenomena, he writes. The first was the "unemployment trap", in which people with low earnings potential had increasing difficulty in finding jobs that were worthwhile.

The second was the "treadmill, or poverty trap", which reduced spending power differentials from different levels of gross earnings.

Mr Howell pointed out that while the national average wage was about £120 a week, the state was making deductions from family men earning as little as £45 a week. A man with a wife and two children earning £85 a week paid £18.87 in tax and national insurance contributions, and received £15.94 in

He proposes a total reform of the tax system, with thresholds set above supplementary benefit levels; tax rates varying from 15 to 50 per cent; abolition of the employees' national insurance contribution, and all income to be taxable.

There should be a national minimum wage, or a national minimum income, in and out of work. Welfare reforms should include the abolition of earnings-related supplement; flat rate "unisex" adult benefits, with householder addition; uniform child benefits paid for all at children's supplementary benefit rates, but taxable, and much reduced reliance on means-tested benefits.

He estimates that his programme would cost £15,000m, which would be paid for out of higher revenues from increased economic activity, rises in indirect taxation, cuts in government spending and North Sea oil.

Why Work? A Radical Solution (Conservative Political Centre, £1.85).

Duke's view of the recession

The Duke of Edinburgh, opening a careers exhibition at Kelvin Hall, Glasgow, yesterday, said that the recession might provide the stimulus necessary for everybody to rethink how people are trained for work. No single group was to blame for the recession, he said.

He called for wide-ranging changes in attitudes towards work and vocational training and, in passing, criticized legislation which he said discouraged, rather than encouraged, employment.

Backbenchers endorse Hayward demand to Social Democrats

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

Labour backbenchers remaining loyal to the party yesterday fully backed the demand by Mr Ronald Hayward, general secretary, that the 12 MPs who have resigned should, "as people of honour and integrity" resign their seats and face by-elections under the colours of their proposed social democratic party.

Addressing the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen at Holmbury St Mary, near Dorking, Mr Hayward said: "These people owe a great deal to the Labour Party, especially to all those loyal party members in the constituencies who worked for them in election after election."

That work was done because they were Labour Party candidates. "These MPs have secured high public office, public influence and substantial rewards because of their membership of the party", he said. It was understandable that Labour workers now demanded that they should resign

"We have rejected expulsions and witch hunts of past years. However, the activities of the party members belonging to the Council for Social Democracy have tested the patience of many in the party.

From a Conservative viewpoint, Mr Edward Taylor, MP for Southend, East, speaking in Sheffield, said it was right for his party to treat the emergence of the Social Democratic Alliance seriously.

This was "because it is obvious that at a time when a courageous Conservative Government is being obliged to make unpopular decisions, some of our traditional supporters may be attracted by any new party which provides a receptacle for protest votes, or for the votes of those who might be tempted to think that a soft option exists".

Likewise, many traditional Labour supporters who had been horrified by the activities of the extreme left within the party's ranks would be attracted by the "pale pink party denuded of the rosy cheeks and policies of Messrs Benn, Heffer and Scargill".

Lord Thorneycroft, chairman of the Conservative Party, in a letter to Tory MPs, constituency chairmen and agents declared that the manifesto objectives of the Government had not changed. In the jargon of today, there was no U-turn he said.

"In politics it is the direction that you take that matters."

Mrs Margaret Thatcher had to govern in the real world with huge inherited commitments to public spending, a vast public sector and the trade union policy of public monopoly policies, "not some imaginary world beloved of the theoretical economists or dogmatic political theorists. . . .

"Of course, we were moved by the power of the miners. *Nothing would have pleased the* militants more than to see the nation plunge into a strike."

Connexions severed: Mr William Rodgers informed the General and Municipal Workers Union on Monday that he was resigning from their panel of sponsored MPs.

Constituency defections: Some members of the Newcastle East constituency Labour Party have joined their MP, Mr Mike Thomas, and quit the party

Commons steps today to take note of new group

By Our Politcial Editor

The first procedural steps in the Commons to take cognizance of the Social Democrats are expected today. Although they are not yet a formal party, the Committee of Selection, which allocates standing committee memberships, is expected to ask its clerk for the new arithmetical proporations between parties.

Labour have gone down by 12, but that is not expected to have much practical effect. Uusually only one member of a standing committee is from a minority party.

The Services Committee, which formally advises the Speaker, has not yet received an application from the Social Democrats for "party" premises.

The Committee's resolutions, unlike those of virtually all other Commons bodies, usually mention the word "party". It would therefore be an unprecedented situation for the sidered a "party" room before they have constituted themselves. A Labour challenge that they have not sought election as Social Democrats could complicate matters.

No arrangements need be made for seating, and yesterday the Social Democrats sat in differnt sections of the Labour benches. For debates there are no formal arrangements

As for the state subsidy for opposition parties, there would be no entitlement for the Social Democrats, according to the authorities, at least until they had won a by-election.

Present Commons strengths after the Social Democrats' separation from Labour:

Conservatives, 337; Labour, 255; Social Democrats, 12; Liberals, 11; Official Ulster Unionists, 5; Democratic Unionists, 3; Scottish Nationalists, 2; Welsh Nationalists, 2; United Ulster Unionist, 1; Ulster Unionist, 1; Social Democratic Labour, 1; Independent Irish, 1; Speaker, 1; Chairmen, 3.

Total, 636.

Campus drive to win support for new party

By Michael Horsnell

A campaign to persuade the 1,250,000 members of the traditionally militant National Union of Students to support the social democratic cause was launched yesterday, amid early signs of strong campus support.

The aim of the Students Campaign for Realignment is to bring together the Liberal Party and the Council for Social Democracy in an agreed electoral alliance by the next general election.

The campaign was launched by Mr Ian Wright, President of Cambridge Students' Union and a signatory of the Limehouse Declaration, who resigned from the Labour Party last weekend and Miss Becky Bryan, immediate past chairman of the Union of Liberal Students.

They have also written to all presidents of students' unions calling for support, which drew an immediate response from Mr Simon Bryceson, union president at York University.

Dinner meeting with Liberals played down

By a Staff Reporter

Three leading members of the Liberal Party, including Mr Cyril Smith, MP, had a private dinner in a London hotel last night with some members of the Council for Social Democracy.

Both sides were keen to play down any significance in the meeting. Mr Mike Thomas, MP for Newcastle upon Tyne, East, and a leading member of the council, described it as "a one-off social occasion".

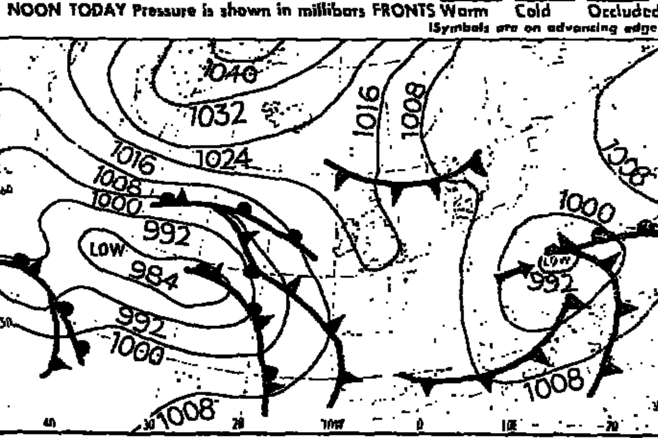
He said tactics and policy between the Liberals and the new group had not been discussed.

Others at the dinner, at the Charing Cross Hotel, included Mr Alan Beith and Mr David Penhaligon, both Liberal MPs, and Mr John Horam and Mr Ian Wrigglesworth, both Social Democrats.

Mr Beith said: "This is not the start of regular meetings between us, but it was a social occasion and very informal".

He refused to answer further questions, saying that he had to rush back to the House of Commons. Mr Smith also refused to discuss the meeting

Weather forecast and recordings



b—blue sky; bc—half clouded; c—cloudy; o—overcast; f—fog; d—drizzle; h—hail; m—mist; r—rain; s—snow; th—thunderstorm; p—showers; pr—periodical rain with snow. Wind speed in mph.

Today

Sun rises: 6.40 am — Sun sets: 5.46 pm
Moon rises: 5.52 am — Moon sets: 3.19 pm
New Moon: March 6
Lighting up: 6.16 pm to 6.08 am
High water: London Bridge, 12.28 pm, 6.4m. Avonmouth, 5.37 am, 11.9m; 6.03 pm, 12.3m. Dover, 9.25 am, 5.9m; 9.50 pm, 6.2m. Hull, 4.52 am, 6.5m; 5.04 pm, 6.8m. Liverpool, 9.47 am, 8.6m; 10.13 pm, 8.6m.
1 foot = 0.3048m — 1m = 3.2808ft

A weak ridge of high pressure covers Britain.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:

London, SE, central S, NW, central N England, Midlands, N Wales, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, Northern Ireland: Mostly dry, perhaps one or two light showers, mist patches early, some sunny intervals; wind variable, light; maximum temp 6°C (43°F).

East Anglia, E, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Occasional wintry showers; wind N, light to moderate; maximum temp 4° or 5°C (40° to 41°F).

Channel Islands, SW England, S Wales: Mostly dry, some sunny intervals, perhaps mist patches at first; wind NE, later S, light; maximum temp 6° to 8°C (43° to 46°F).

Central Highlands, NW Scotland Occasional wintry showers, wind variable, mostly N, S later, light; maximum temp 5° or 6°C (41° to 43°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Friday: Mostly dry and rather cold at first; rain reaching SW later tomorrow will extend to much of Britain on Friday, preceded by sleet or snow in places, chiefly in Scotland; becoming milder in S.

Sea passages: S North Sea, Straits of Dover: Wind N, moderate or fresh, decreasing to light; sea moderate, becoming slight.

English Channel (E): Wind NE, moderate or fresh, decreasing to light; sea moderate, becoming slight.

Yesterday

London: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 6°C (43°F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 4°C (39°F). Humidity, 6 pm, 80 per cent. Rain, 24 hr to 6 pm, 0.39in. Sun, 24 hr to 6 pm, nil. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,011.9 millibars, rising.
1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Akrotiri	s	15	59	Budapest	sn	1	34	L Palmas	f	19	66	Nice	r	12	54
Algiers	s	20	68	Chicago	c	1	34	Lisbon	c	12	54	Oslo	s	-1	30
Amsterdm	c	3	37	Cologne	c	7	45	London	c	6	43	Paris	c	8	46
Athens	f	14	57	Copenhgn	c	-1	30	Luxembrg	c	5	41	Rome	r	11	52
Barbados	s	30	86	Edinburgh	c	3	37	Madrid	f	14	57	S Frncsco	c	12	54
Barcelona	f	16	61	Florence	r	10	50	Majorca	s	16	61	Stockholm	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Beirut	c	14	57	Funchal	c	16	61	Malaga	f	17	63	Tel Aviv	s	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bermuda	f	21	70	Geneva	r	4	39	Malta	c	16	61	Toronto	sn	[illegible]	[illegible]
Berlin	c	4	39	Gibraltar	f	17	63	Miami	s	26	79	Vancouvr	r	7	45
Biarritz	c	11	52	Guernsey	c	7	45	Montreal	s	-8	18	Venice	c	[illegible]	[illegible]
Birmghm	c	3	37	Helsinki	s	-3	27	[illegible]	c	9	[illegible]	Vienna	c	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bristol	c	5	41	Innsbruck	f	7	45	Naples	c	[illegible]	[illegible]	Washingtn	s	6	43
Brussels	c	7	45	Jersey	c	7	45	New York	s	0	32	Zurich	r	5	41

Overseas selling prices
Australia $2; Austria Sch 20; Bahrain BD 0.650; Belgium B frs 35; Canaries Pts 100; Cyprus 450 mils; Denmark Dkr 5.50; Dubai Dir 7.00; Finland Mkk 5; France Frs 4.50; Germany Dm 3.00; Greece Dr 50; Holland Gl 3.00; Iran IR 1.35; Iraq ID 0.500; Irish Republic 20p; Italy L 110; Jordan LD 0.435; Kuwait KD 0.350; Lebanon LL 3.00; Luxembourg Lf 35; Madeira Esc 50; Malta 30c; Morocco Dir 7.00; Norway Kr 6.00; Oman OR 0.700; Pakistan Rps 10; Portugal Esc 50; Qatar QR 7.50; Saudi Arabia SR 5.25; Singapore $4.5; Spain Pts 100; Sweden Skr 5.00; Switzerland S Fr 3.00; Syria LS 3.50; Tunisia Din .450; US and Canada $1.50; UAE Dir 7.00; Yugoslavia Din 40.

All subscription rates on request.

WEST EUROPE

M Giscard tries to win back the conservative voters who were upset by his past liberalism

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, March 3

In 1974, M Giscard d'Estaing achieved the remarkable feat of convincing his fellow countrymen that he was a new man who, if he became President, would carry out new and bold policies, in spite of the fact that he had been Finance Minister for 11 years.

In 1981, after being in almost undivided power for seven years, it will clearly be much more difficult for him to repeat this psychological tour-de-force, and convince Frenchmen that they should return him for a "new" seven-year term, save in a strictly chronological sense.

But he still has an edge on M Francois Mitterrand, the Socialist leader who has been the unsuccessful opposition candidate for 16 years, and whose political career stretches back into the remote past of the Fourth Republic.

M Jacques Chirac, the Gaullist candidate, found a telling argument a couple of weeks ago when he told the electorate that they deserved better than to be faced with the selfsame choice as seven years ago.

The President knows this only too well. There was no reference in his announcement of his candidature yesterday to "the new era of French politics" with which he began his mandate in 1974, or to the scope of the sweeping change which he was about to introduce, else his listeners would have been temped to ask why he had not done so in the past seven years.

Rightly or wrongly he has come to the conclusion that in these times of crisis, what the average Frenchman wants is not change but stability and security.

French Presidential Election

He declared yesterday in terms reminiscent of General de Gaulle, that of the candidates of the majority only he could give stability to them (it was his only indirect reference to M Chirac), and that the victory of the left next May would mean disaster and ruin for the country.

The deliberate right turn is perhaps only tactical. The object is to win back those conservative and Gaullist voters who put him into power the first time, less to reform French society than to keep out the left, and were disconcerted by the strong liberal wind which blew during his first years in office.

The newspaper *Quest-France* writes today: "Of change, there is no more question; nor of reform. The object in the last analysis is to conserve. It is a sign of the times: it is probably the whole of France which has turned to the right.

Les Dervieres Nouvelies d'Alsace says: "He is conscious of the fact that he must respond henceforth, not to a desire for innovation, but to the deep yearning of a great number of Frenchmen to be reassured". If the Paris Bourse is any guide, he struck the right chord.

That is why yesterday he brushed aside the first ballot, ignored M Chirac, concentrated exclusively on the second round, which, in all likelihood, will boil down once again to a duel with the left, and directed the full force of his unusual pugnacity against his only real opponent, the Socialist leader, without once mentioning him by name.

He reminded his audience that M Mitterrand bore the mark of Cain: he had voted against the constitution of the Fifth Republic, and had always been opposed to its institutions, even if this is no longer true today.

"The mask of liberalism has fallen is the almost unanimous outcry of the left. "In any real democracy, Giscard would be swept away, because he would be judged by results", M Lionel Jospin, the first secretary of the Socialist Party, declared on the radio.

As for M Georges Marchais, the communist leader, he insisted once again that he alone was the only real anti-Giscard candidate and the candidate of change. He said: "For seven years, M Giscard d'Estaing has turned the presidency into the devoted and loyal auxiliary of big capital . . . He is now a candidate to continue and aggravate this policy. Well, No!"

Bookmakers' choice: Ladbrokes opened their book on the French presidential election and have installed President Giscard d'Estaing as favourite at 4-5 with M Mitterrand priced at evens. Any other candidate is 33-1.

Hopes fade for truce in Basque country

From Richard Wigg
Madrid, March 3

Hopes of an end to violence in the Basque country after Spain's abortive coup faded today as the extreme right-wing Spanish Basque Battalion murdered a worker and ETA's military wing, the more extreme branch of the left-wing Basque terrorist organization, claimed responsibility for Sunday's bomb attack which injured three policemen.

ETA's more moderate political military wing had announced at the weekend that it was calling off its armed violence because of the coup attempt with its clear threat to Basque autonomy, and urged the military wing to do likewise, giving a chance to the Basque political parties to negotiate with Madrid.

The Basques, like the Catalans, are now clearly worried that the attempted military coup, even though it failed, will mean a setback for the devolution process and that the Madrid Government will, at best, decide to go slow.

ETA's military wing in a statement passed to *Egin*, the Basque nationalist daily close to ETA, voiced its suspicion about "the genuineness" of last week's coup attempt, alleging that it bore the signs of a stunt by Madrid designed to put back the clock on Basque freedom.

The blindness of this reaction caused Señor Mario Onaindia, one of the principal Basque Nationalist parliamentarians close to the ETA political-military wing, to denounce today the ETA extremists in the light of the coup, declaring: "We must arouse the Basque people's awareness and say clearly the ETA Military are provocateurs playing with fire".

Today's victim of the Basque right-wing killers was the brother of the deputy mayor of the small town of Andoain, Guipuzcoa province, who belonged to the Basque Nationalist Party.

The Spanish Basque Battalion, which has often boasted that its objective is to avenge the violence of ETA, telephoned Bilbao newspapers accepting responsibility.

Russia urges mutual concessions

From Harry Debelius
Madrid, March 3

Mr Leonid Ilyichev, the Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister, confirmed here today that his Government was willing to consider the inclusion of all Soviet territory west of the Urals in the area in which significant military activities should be reported to other Helsinki Accord nations as a "confidence-building measure".

His remarks, made at a news conference in Madrid on his return to the European security review conference to which he is the chief Soviet delegate, echoed the speech delivered at the Soviet Communist Party congress by President Brezhnev which had aroused considerable interest

Mr Ilyichev suggested, however, that any agreement regarding the territorial scope of "confidence-building measures" would probably have to be sought at a disarmament conference held separately from the present conference here.

Speaking in guarded language, Mr Ilyichev said: "Taking into account the importance and the scale of new confidence-building measures which we hope will be elaborated at the conference on military détente and disarmament, the Soviet delegation does not preclude the possibility of adopting the political obligation to implement some of them."

Asked to clarify whether that means that Moscow would consider the amplification and strengthening of the confidence-building measures which form part of the Helsinki Final Act, during the Madrid conference, or whether it would put off any such consideration for some future disarmament conference, he replied:

"The Soviet delegation is willing to consider certain confidence-building measures at the Madrid meeting, but some confidence-building matters will be the subject of discussion at some future conference."

He made it plain that the Soviet Union expected concessions from the West if it was to go along with anything like a French-sponsored proposal to extend the area of applicability of such measures as far as the Urals.

He spoke at another point of Europe being more than "a geographical concept". Later he also emphasized that the measures should be applicable in the same degree to all the other signatories of the Helsinki Accords of 1975.

Since the United States is a signatory of the Helsinki agreement but, unlike the other nations, it is not European, those remarks suggested that Moscow might ask to include either continental American territory or the Atlantic in the area to be covered by the measures, in reciprocity for accepting their extension to the Urals.

On the matter of military security and disarmament, there are two main proposals at the Madrid conference. One, submitted by France and backed by Western nations, calls for specific agreement on certain obligatory confidence-building measures, covering all significant military operations from the Atlantic to the Urals, as a prior step before the calling of any further conference on security or disarmament.

A Polish proposal, backed by the Warsaw Pact nations, calls for a two-phase post-Madrid conference, the first phase for the purpose of discussing confidence-building proposals and the second phase to deal with disarmament.

Kidnappers of footballer contact his club

From Our Correspondent
Madrid, March 3

The kidnappers of Joaquin "Quini" Castro, the Barcelona footballer, have made contact with the club, Señor José Luis Nunez, its president, said today.

But he refused to confirm reports in Barcelona sporting circles that the kidnappers are demanding more than £400,000 in ransom money.

Señor Castro disappeared on Sunday evening after a league match. Police suspect common criminals, in spite of several telephone calls from people claiming political motives.

Sharp Berlinguer attack on Russian policy

From Our Own Correspondent
Rome, March 3

The condemnation by Signor Enrico Berlinguer, the Italian Communist leader, of Soviet policy in Afghanistan and Poland as "inconceivable for us and absurd", is regarded as the sharpest criticism he has so far made of Russian policy.

It had an unusual edge because he was talking yesterday without a prepared text to a group of steel and shipyard workers in Genoa. He was on delicate ground because there are still members of the party who fail to understand the quarrel with Moscow. This has been accentuated by Signor Berlinguer's decision not to attend the Soviet party congress and the Soviet decision not to allow Signor Giancarlo Pajetta, the leader of the Italian delegation, to address the congress itself.

The refusal of the Russians to give Signor Pajetta the congress podium to speak from was, Signor Berlinguer told the Genoa workers, "incomprehensible".

Applause greeted a statement from an elderly worker who told the meeting not to forget that the Soviet Union was "the country which has fought most for the liberty of oppressed peoples".

Huge cost increases jeopardize other projects

Tornado wrecks Bonn defence plan

From Patricia Clough
Bonn, March 3

The West German Minister of Defence and the country's leading generals today started a three-day reappraisal of the Bundeswehr's armaments programme which has been thrown into disarray by the soaring cost of the Tornado aircraft project.

The results of the meeting, one expert predicted, will be "a wailing and gnashing of teeth". Highly sophisticated and expensive weapons planned for the next decade—new aircraft, anti-aircraft systems and tanks—are likely to be scrapped or postponed.

The defence chiefs face a huge and complex problem: whether and how, with its present budget and soaring costs, West Germany can fulfil its defence commitment within the alliance.

The review was forced on them by the enormous increases in the cost of the Tornado multi-role combat aircraft which West Germany is building jointly with Britain and Italy.

Originally estimated to cost DM15m (£3.2m) each the 322 Tornadoes wanted by the Bundeswehr are now said to cost DM70m which will make it the most expensive aircraft ever produced. The costs are still rising.

Costs outstripped budget estimates in 1980 and 1981 by DM1,300m and a shortfall of DM818m is expected for 1982.

By 1984 the Tornado will have turned into a supersonic monster devouring between 25 and 30 per cent of West Germany's defence budget.

The Bundestag defence committee has decided to find out how it happened. It begins investigations on March 19 by questioning Herr Hans Apel, who as Defence Minister is officially responsible.

The opposition charges that Herr Apel was told of the Tornado cost problems a year ago and ignored them, although he says he was only put in the picture in November. But Herr Apel inherited the project itself from his predecessors, one of whom was the Chancellor who, aware of the problems involved, has come to his defence.

Despite much criticism it appears unlikely that Herr Apel will fall, although his political career—he was once considered a potential successor to the Chancellor—now looks less promising.

The committee may well come to the conclusion already reached by many commentators here: that real problems lie in the wholly unmanageable size and complexity of a technological enterprise like the Tornado.

The military, who have to lay down specifications, and parliamentarians who have to approve projects and act as watchdogs, are poorly equipped to supervise such a massive international operation involving, directly or indirectly, 500 firms.

Herr Apel, who is aware of the problems, last week appointed an adviser from industry—Herr Manfred Ehmcke, experienced in putting ailing firms back on their feet—to provide the expertise.

Sacrifices will be expected from all three armed forces. Among the projects reported likely to be dropped or delayed is a tactical fighter aircraft planned jointly with Britain and France

Napoleon, a Franco-German tank due to succeed the German Leopard 2 in the 1990s and the anti-aircraft tank Roland, designed to give ground protection to Tornado bases, may also have to go.

Libya courts a reluctant France

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, March 3

On the day the Quai d'Orsay confirmed the French decision not to deliver to Libya the first of the 10 gunboats it ordered four years ago, Colonel Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, repeated his wish to restore good relations with France.

He proposed in a speech at Sebha today, a high-level meeting to discuss African problems. "We did not wish a clash with Paris", he said, "it is Paris which is attacking us". He said Libya was impatient for the situation in Chad to return to normal, so that it could withdraw its troops.

But he insisted that the security of Chad and Libya was "indivisible". If, however, Colonel Gaddafi really wants to improve relations with Paris he will have to withdraw his troops first, informed sources say.

The decision of the Government to postpone delivery of the first gunboat is another clear indication of its disapproval of Libyan intervention in Chad. A month ago, it suspended putting into force five oil exploration contracts negotiated by the national Elf-Aquitaine Oil Company with the Libyan Government.

The first gunboat was to have been delivered last month. Along with two others already completed, it is moored under heavy guard in the naval dockyard of Lorient. A dockyard spokesman said that Libyan crews had not taken part in the final tests.

The contract for the gunboats, worth 3,000m Francs (about £271.5m) was signed in 1977 and the first of the series was launched in June 1979. Five have been built, the other two being at Cherbourg where the remaining five are under construction.

One of the Cherbourg gunboats was launched on January 14 watched by a large Libyan delegation—but that was before relations between Paris and Tripoli soured over Chad.

The vessels are each about 150ft long and have a displacement of 70 tonnes. They are fitted with four diesel engines of 4,500hp and have a top speed of 40 knots. Armament consists of four missile-launchers, a 76mm gun, and a twin-turret of 90mm guns.

Similar gunboats have already been delivered by France to the Greek, Nigerian, Argentine and Iranian navies.

Three of those ordered by Iran are being held, pending the settlement of French financial claims against the Iranian Government concerning deals during the Shah's reign notably the delivery of nuclear power stations.

There are 100 Libyan sailors in Cherbourg, presumably waiting to train on the gunboats. But they have not been allowed on board. Libyan pilots are also training on helicopters produced near Marseilles since Tripoli has also expressed interest in French helicopters.

Gunmen hold 28 hostage in bank robbery

From Our Own Correspondent
Bonn, March 3

Two bank raiders today got away with DMB3m (£633,000)—in one of Germany's biggest robberies—after holding 23 people hostage for 14 hours during Heidelberg's carnival festivities.

While people celebrated Rosenmontag yesterday the gunmen forced their way into the house of a local bank manager, Herr Gerhard Schreiter, and took his wife and teenage children hostage.

One guarded the family and the other made Herr Schreiter drive him to the homes of three other bank staff who between them had the keys to the vaults. Brandishing his gun he forced them, their families and visitors to go to Herr Schreiter's house.

One of the gunmen then took the four officials to the bank and made them hand over the money from the safes. They returned to Herr Schreiter's house

OVERSEAS

Photograph by Barry Beattie

British trade unionists gather outside South Africa House for an anti-apartheid demonstration yesterday with banners calling for the release of Mr Oscar Mpetha.

Blacks on march in Cape Town

From Nicholas Ashford
Johannesburg, March 3

Riot police were sent to the black township of Gugulethu, outside Cape Town, today after black school children staged a demonstration in protest against the rearrest of two student leaders.

Shortly afterwards a crowd of about 300 chanting, fist-waving blacks marched through the centre of Cape Town from the Supreme Court where the trial opened today of 18 people allegedly involved in last year's violence in the city.

Both events were connected with the black school and bus boycotts in the Cape Peninsula last year. Civic leaders were concerned that today's protest could mark the beginning of new unrest

The demonstration took place outside Fezeka high school which was at the centre of last year's schools boycott. Students, who were dispersed without violence by the police, were protesting against the detention of Mr Oupa Lehulere and Mr Kent Mkalipi, members of their students representative council.

The two men were among a group of student leaders detained during last year's boycott and held for months without trial. The two were acquitted last month after their case had been heard in the nearby town of Worcester.

Black students in the Cape Peninsula agreed to call off their class boycott at the beginning of this year after the authorities agreed to their demands for the release of student leaders by early March.

The march down Adderley Street from the Supreme Court was designed to draw attention to the trial of Mr Oscar Mpetha and 17 others who are accused of murder and other incidents of violence in June last year which resulted in at least 30 deaths.

The dead included two whites who were bludgeoned to death by a crowd of angry blacks who were protesting against official attempts to end the boycott of buses by black commuters.

Shortly after last year's unrest, Mr Mpetha, who is more than 70 years old, wrote a letter to the *Cape Times* newspaper in which he blamed the police for starting the violence.

UN ban strengthens Pretoria bias claim

From Our Own Correspondent
Johannesburg, March 3

The South African Government has reacted with predictable indignation to last night's expulsion of the South African representative from the United Nations General Assembly

Mr Peter Botha, the Prime Minister, and Mr R. F. Botha, the Foreign Minister, held talks today to decide what steps should be taken in the light of the United Nation's action. Later the Foreign Minister issued a statement denouncing the United Nation's move as being "politically inspired" and an "unpardonable disregard" of the General Assembly's rules of procedure.

There can be little doubt that the General Assembly, in refusing to allow South Africa to state its case over Namibia, has played into South Africa's hands.

The whole thrust of South Africa's argument against the implementation of the United Nations settlement plan for Namibia is that the world body is biased in favour of the South-West Africa People's Organization (Swapo) and therefore cannot be expected to be an impartial supervisor of free and fair elections in the territory.

It was largely the impartiality question that led to the collapse of the Geneva conference on Namibia in January. In his statement today Mr Botha emphasized that the rejection of the South African representative's credentials was "typical of the glaring injustice that South Africa had to contend with at the hands of the United Nations".

S African raiders outwitted Machel men

From Ray Kennedy
Komatipoorst, Eastern Transvaal, March 3

Mozambican troops were completely deceived by the South African Army task force that struck across the border here at the end of January and destroyed a base of the outlawed African National Congress (ANC) at Matola on the outskirts of Maputo, the capital.

One Mozambican soldier is said to have clambered into the leading South African truck to direct the task force to its target after the driver pulled up and called out in Portuguese

Afrikaans farmers here in the Onderberg, a rich triangle of sugar cane land between the borders of independent Swaziland, Mozambique and South Africa's Kruger Game Reserve are still talking about the precision of the South African attack.

Scant details of the raid have been revealed by the South African authorities.

In fact the South Africans have not even revealed how they entered Mozambique but President Samora Machel has said they crossed the border here and drove straight down the main road to Matola, about 50 miles inside Mozambique.

He has charged several officers with treason and cowardice, alleging that they ordered their men not to engage the South African flying column.

But according to farmers here, who avidly watched the preparations for the raid, it appears that the Mozambican Frelimo troops were completely outwitted.

The South African column consisted of 11 lorries painted in drab Frelimo colours.

It appears that the column crossed where the border is defined only by a fence originally erected to control the spread of foot and mouth disease.

The farmers said that throughout the period of the attack, a South African Air Force DC3, the venerable but reliable Dakota, circled the Komatipoort area. It seemed to be an airborne command post which was in constant touch with the ground forces.

Zimbabwe hunt for men who murdered farmer

From Our Correspondent
Salisbury, March 3

Paramilitary police are hunting the area north of Bulawayo for two dissident former guerrillas who shot dead a farmer yesterday.

The men, believed to be former members of Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zipra forces, approached the farm of Mr Richard Bawden, aged 55, at Bubi, about 20 miles north of the city. While they were speaking to the farmer and his wife one of the men was bitten by a dog. They opened fire killing both Mr Bawden and the dog.

Pregnant girl shot in siege used as 'sandbag', QC alleges

From Arthur Osman
Birmingham

A man accused of murdering a girl aged 16 who was pregnant by him remonstrated with counsel for the prosecution when his trial opened at Birmingham Crown Court yesterday. He said he objected to the statement that he held her as a "sandbag" to absorb police gunshots.

David Keith Pagett, aged 31, a labourer, of Deelands Road, Rubery, Birmingham, told Mr Justice Park and Mr Douglas Draycott, QC for the prosecution: "I object to the continuous use of this word 'sandbag', which is quite unnecessary. I apologize for this disturbance, but it is totally unnecessary to use 'sandbag' —she was a person."

The judge told him he must control himself or he would be taken from the dock.

Mr Pagett denies murdering Miss Gail Kinchin, who died last July; attempting to murder Mr James Wood, her stepfather; attempting to murder Detective Sergeant Thomas Sartain and Detective Constable Gerald Richards; unlawfully carrying away Miss Kinchin and her mother, Mrs Josephine Wood, against their will; possessing a firearm with intent to endanger life; and wounding with a shotgun to cause grievous bodily harm.

Mr Draycott said that before last June Mr Pagett had been living with Miss Kinchin. They were unmarried and she was heavily pregnant by him. Because of his violence towards her and parental persuasion, she left him and returned to live with her mother and stepfather.

On June 11 Mr Pagett acquired an over-and-under shotgun, cartridges, a Mini-car and a bottle of brandy. He attempted to trace the girl and arrived late at night at her parents' home in Brandwood Park Road, King's Heath, Birmingham. He was carrying the loaded gun and Mr Wood opened the door when he knocked, slammed it and ran out of the back door with his wife. Mr Pagett smashed the glass in the front door, got in and pursued them.

He aimed the gun at Mr Wood, but Mrs Wood knocked it up and the shot went into an upstairs bedroom. He fired again from 14 feet as Mr Wood was climbing over a garden fence: 100 pellets hit him in the leg and he collapsed.

Mrs Wood started to fight with Mr Pagett, who attacked her, demanding to know where her daughter was. He dragged her to the car and drove off, holding the gun. They arrived at a house in Northfield, Birmingham, and he compelled Miss Kinchin to go downstairs with him.

The police began to follow the car. At one point it stopped and Mrs Wood got away. They arrived at Deelands Road, where Mr Pagett had once lived in a flat with Miss Kinchin. Using her as a shield, he entered the flat on the first floor.

Mr Draycott said three pairs of armed police officers began preparing for a siege. Sergeant Sartain and PC Richards went to the landing by the flat door and Mr Pagett poked out the gun. They told him they were armed. The door opened and they could see he was holding the girl in front of him. Mr Pagett told them to go downstairs but that meant walking past his gun muzzle. He pointed to a window on the landing and told them to jump out but instead they went up to the second floor.

Mr Pagett was on the landing below them. It was obvious that he came forward to shoot it out. The officers heard him saying: "They are testing me. I will show the. . ."

Mr Draycott continued: "They waited and round the bottom of the stairs came Gail, held in front of Pagett, with the shotgun, which he was about to fire. He was using this girl much as a soldier uses a sandbag. She was there to absorb the shot which would inevitably be returned when he fired.

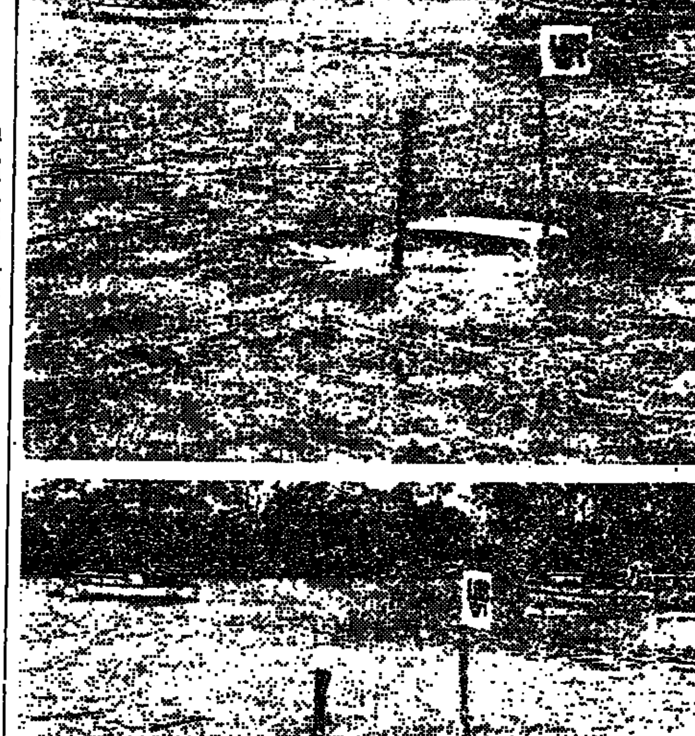
"He fired twice—his was the first shot. It is quite plain that Pagett foresaw what would happen when he fired, otherwise there was no point in holding in front of him this pregnant girl".

His first shot went into the banister rail and ceiling. There was a series of shots from the officers above. He advanced two or three steps and fired again. That shot went over the officers' heads and they fired again. At some stage three bullets hit Miss Kinchin in the chest.

They both fell back and Mr Pagett was found sitting on the floor with the girl on top of him. Miss Kinchin died a month later, on July 11.

Mr Draycott said: "The police officers were acting in the course of their duty. No other course was open to them: they are entitled to defend themselves as you and I are."

The trial continues today.





Photographs by John Manning

Trial by water: Not a recommended way of avoiding the Putney Bridge bottleneck, but a demonstration under the Thames yesterday of the protective powers of an all-purpose spray used to coat the electrical equipment of this car before it was submerged and its exposed engine kept running and its lights ablaze beneath the surface (Craig Seton writes). Several times the car was driven six feet under water with a diver at the wheel during the demonstration on the Putney embankment organized by a large British car care chemicals company which is launching the product, LPS 1, on the British market. Its makers claim it chases out moisture, lubricates, penetrates and inhibits rust.

Housing in crisis, 1: Islington hits back at critics of its buying policies

Government blamed for halting progress

New housebuilding is at the lowest peacetime level for more than fifty years. The construction industry, in the words of its leaders, is on its knees, with an estimated 400,000 unemployed, and a housing crisis in the mid-1980s is widely predicted. In four articles John Young looks at the effect of government-imposed spending cuts on public sector housing.

No London borough provides more extreme contrasts in housing conditions than Islington. Parts of it have become synonymous with "gentrification", where the middle classes have moved in and transformed decaying terraces into expensive town houses.

Yet until recently Islington had the biggest accommodation shortage of any borough in London and, with Hackney, it still has the highest proportion of buildings classified as unfit. Critics claim that that is largely due to the council's practice of buying properties and leaving them empty for months and years, because it cannot afford to modernize them.

Mr Derek Hopkins, the housing director, is a genial pipe smoker who commutes to his office each day from Leicestershire. He neither looks nor sounds like a bureaucrat as he argues forcefully that the council is being "crucified" by Government policies, and that ministers who argue that so-called profligate local authorities must learn to be more prudent have failed to grasp the scale of the difficulties

He concedes that the council "went off at full tilt" in the early 1970s in acquiring almost everything that came on to the market. But he denies that it was municipalization for the sake of it, or that the larger number of council properties now standing empty are the result of misplaced ideology.

Between 1972 and 1979 the council had provided more than 7,000 new homes and more than 4,000 renovated ones. Yet there were still nearly 10,000 people on the waiting list and, so far from being allowed to spend money on making its empty properties habitable, from April 1 it would be penalized by losing subsidy on those that remained vacant.

"But for the cuts, we would have a really effective modernization programme under way", he says. "But as it is, we cannot even do any proper forward planning, because we will not know our housing investment programme allocations until about two weeks before the start of the new financial year.

"We have abandoned all new development next year except for one small scheme. But we do have two big rehabilitation programmes, where we are carrying out structural alterations on council estates and generally improving the environment. With post-1948 blocks we can do the work while the tenants remain in their homes, but in prewar buildings we have to decant them, and that means keeping other properties as temporary accommodation."

Mr Hopkins says the council has about 1,100 empty properties, of which about half are being modernized. He is particularly worried about the declining condition of older estates, where basic repairs are needed which will become more expensive the longer they are delayed.

Housing department offi point out that empty co properties, an increas common sight, particularl the north of the borough, prospective purchasers in surrounding area.

Mr Hopkins argues that ruling Labour group on council has acted respon and has not tried to defy Government. Recently it for the full 33 per cent inc in council rents recomme by the Department of the vironment. Most counci feel that municipalization gone far enough; they fave "social mix", as oppose the unbalanced position in east London boroughs.

But for all the Governm emphasis on home owne and other alternatives to cil housing, only about 7 the borough's 32,000 te have so far applied to buy

Like many others. Mr kins believes that the effect of the cuts will nc felt for another two or years. "The relatively rate of housing comple has masked the real posi Next year our expenditure be a third less in real t and, if this goes on, we heading for disaster."

Next: Manchester Liver

In brief

'Ignore attacks' plea to English

An appeal to English holidaymakers to ignore arson attacks on holiday cottages in Wales was made yesterday by Councillor Gwilym Evans, the mayor of Dinefwr, Dyfed.

He was speaking after the fifty-second attack in 15 months, in which an isolated cottage at Llanfynoydd, near Carmarthon, was badly damaged.

Sebastian Coe fined

Sebastian Coe, the Olympic gold medal runner, was fined £17 by magistrates at Glossop, Derbyshire, yesterday for driving his car at between 56 and 58 mph in a 30 mph zone. The case had been adjourned so that Mr Coe, of Gladstone Avenue, Loughborough, could produce his driving licence.

Broadcaster fined

Mr Macdonald Hastings, aged 72, the author and broadcaster, was arrested for a drink-driving offence shortly after being told that his wife had only a few weeks to live, Basingstoke magistrates heard yesterday. He was fined £100 and banned from driving for a year. Mrs Hastings died last month.

Eye test 'failure'

A woman motorist aged 83 failed an eye test a few minutes after she had knoced down a woman aged 93 an inquest at Bournemouth heard yesterday. But took another test the next day and passed.

Richmond plan passed

The £20m scheme to redevelop 3.1 acres of land by the Thames at Richmond, Surrey, with offices, shops, houses and entertainment facilities was approved last night by the borough council.

Hiker found on moor

Mr Andrew Milne, aged 23, of Lightwood Road, Buxton, Derbyshire, a hiker who had been missing since last Monday morning on bleak Derbyshire moorland, was found alive near the Staffordshire border yesterday and taken to hospital.

Mint with a goal

The Royal Mint is inviting artists to submit design proposals for the reverse of the new £1 and 20p coins.

Tunnicliffe's entire art estate to be sold at auction despite his wish

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

The entire artistic estate of Charles Tunnicliffe, the best known bird and animal artist of this century, is to be sold by Christie's on May 15. The sale runs directly counter to the artist's wishes.

After the exhibition of about 300 of his works at the Royal Academy in 1974 he expressed the wish that his lovingly guarded measured drawings and sketch books should be given to the academy after his death; his special wish, according to his close friend, Mr Kyffin Williams, RA, was that the collection should remain together. Christie's are to disperse it in a 350-lot sale.

The works to be offered are of great ornithological as well as artistic interest. First there are his measured drawings, accurate to within a millimetre, of birds and animals, of which dead specimens were brought to him for study.

They "are most beautifully laid out on sheets of paper in an exciting pattern of the bird's body with details of beak, wing and claw", Mr Williams wrote in an introduction to the 1974 exhibition. Dr Bruce Campbell, the distinguished ornithologist, points to their importance for the study of plumage.

Secondly, there are the sketch books, which record the posture and movement of the birds and animals that Tunnicliffe patiently observed around his remote home in Anglesey.

The measured drawings and sketch books were Tunnicliffe's reference material for his delicate watercolours and illustrations.

Tunnicliffe's graphic work is known throughout the world, from his illustrations to Henry Williamson's *Tarka the Otter* and *Salar the Salmon*, as well as his own book, *Shorelands Summer Diary*. His watercolours were regularly exhibited at the Tryon Gallery, in Bond Street, and at the Royal Academy

The measured drawings and sketch books were left in his will to his sister, Mrs Dorothy Downes, "to be disposed of by her in accordance with my wishes and instructions". The residue of the estate, after specific bequests to Mrs Downes, went to nine nephews and nieces.

Shortly after his death in 1979 three of his close friends, Mr Williams, Mr Ian Niall (his biographer) and Mr Sean Hagarty were asked by Mrs Downes to arrange for his work to be lodged with a suitable institution, according to Mr Williams. But the residual legatees subsequently persuaded her that the sale of the drawings was the better course.

His anxious friends next suggested that the work should be sold en bloc to a suitable institution, or possibly ceded in lieu of tax.

The executors commented yesterday, through Christie's that the option of a private treaty sale or in lieu deal had been carefully considered but rejected in favour of auction.

A group of the measured drawings is on exhibition at the Mostyn Art Gallery, in Llandudno, with a group of George Stubb's horse studies.

Christie's sale will contain 360 measured drawings, 52 sketch books, each sold as a separate lot, together with some manuscripts and watercolours. Christie's suggest that prices for the drawings will range from £100 to £2,000 and for the sketchbooks from £300 to £10,000.

Right-wing attack on Tory recor

The Selsdon Group, w has among its vice-presid Professor Alan Walters, Margaret Thatcher's econ adviser, said yesterday that Government was driving its porters to despair.

The group, formed by Edward Heath before he c to power, is composed of r wing Tory MPs and others.

Mr Richard Ritchie, chairman, said in a paper lished yesterday: "This Gov ment's economic strategy suffered as sharp a reversa took place in the first two y of Mr Heath's Administra

"Despite good intentions some brave decisions, this servative Government has f to a serious and disappoir extent in virtually all economic objectives it set i before the election.

"It is now impossible to oncile the Government's p in practice with its preele commitments. It is difficu see how this Government now summond up the wil take those measures w would have been so much e had they been implemented moment Mrs Thatcher's Ad istration assumed office."

Mr Ritchie attacked Government's inability to m the books balance by cut public spending. As a res "to the chagrin of Conserva MPs, one cannot escape the c clusion that there is a real d ger of inflation once m rising, and before the election."

Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chance of the Exchequer, should use unemployment as an exc for failing to reduce pu borrowing, which should done either by higher taxa or by cutting public spend including defence, educa and health, he said.

Community 'must care for old'

By Nicholas Timmins

Care for the elderly must increasingly mean care by the community, the Government says today in a White Paper on the elderly.

With pensions for the old costing more than £11,000m a year, and support and services for them estimated to account for more than a third of expenditure on the main social programmes, the paper makes clear that significant expansion in public spending on the elderly will not be possible.

The primary role of the public services is an enabling one, the White Paper says, providing a framework of support to help people to care for themselves and their families; but the primary sources of support and care are informal and voluntary.

"It is the role of public authorities to sustain and, where necessary, develop, but never to displace such support and care", the White Paper says.

Age Concern commented that the Government must not confuse its responsibility "with a pretence that care can be provided on the cheap by the community".

Growing Older (Cmnd 8173, Stationery Office, £4.20).

Pensioners in London lobby today

By Pat Healy
Social Services Correspondent

Coachloads of elderly people are to travel to London today to join the "national pensioners' day" event, organized by the Trades Union Congress. They are demanding a 32 per cent increase in the basic pension in November, to raise it to £36 a week, instead of the £30 expected to be announced in the Budget.

About 3,000 pensioners from all over Britain are expected to take part.

Delegations will press for higher pensions, more help with fuel bills and better housing for the retired at meetings with Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, Mr Michael Foot, leader of the Labour Party, and Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader.

The focus of their wide-ranging demands is that pensions should be increased at least to the TUC target of a third of gross average earnings for a single person and half the gross average earnings for a married couple.

That would mean raising the single person's pension to £36 in November and a married couple's to £57.50.

Jury told of Moonies' plan to carry President Nixon

A plan by the Moonie cult to carry President Nixon shoulder-high through Washington at the height of the Watergate scandal was foiled when members were "taken by the scruff of the neck and tossed away" by bodyguards, a High Court libel jury in London was told yesterday.

Mr Gary Scharff, a former Moonie, one of an eight-strong team chosen to carry Mr Nixon, said the plan was ordered by Mr Sun Myung Moon, the leader of the cult, to give the impression that the President still had a lot of support.

Mr Scharff was giving evidence for the defence in an action by Mr Dennis Orme, the United Kingdom director of the Moonies, against Associated Newspapers over an article in the *Daily Mail* in May, 1978, which alleged that the Moonies brainwashed converts and broke up families. Libel is denied.

Mr Scharff said he left the Moonies after speaking to former members. "I was given a book to read about Chinese brainwashing methods."

The hearing continues today.

LSE students occupy room in fee protest

By Our Education Correspondent

Students at the London School of Economics occupied the board room yesterday in protest against the proposed increase in fees for overseas students of at least 20 to 25 per cent.

Students at two other London colleges, University and Queen Mary, are already occupying their administration buildings in a similar protest. A rally to discuss overseas student fees will be held in the university's student union today

The students say it will be followed by some form of "direct action".

Representatives of National Union of Students Mr Rhodes Boyson, Und Secretary of State for E cation and Science, yester to press their claims for a per cent increase in the m tenance grant for home stude in the next academic year.



Photograph by David Jon

Pilot killed: The pilot of this Piper Cherokee aircraft was killed and his passenger seriously injured when it crashed in Loughton, Essex, yesterday. The pilot w. Mr Henry Murray, aged 40, of Abridg Essex.

Lord Diplock finds controls on tapping are satisfactory

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

Interception of communications, particularly telephone conversations, remained an effective and essential weapon for the maintenance of law and order and the safety of the realm, Lord Diplock, chairman of the Security Commission, said in a report to the Prime Minister yesterday.

He said the procedures used were working satisfactorily and with the minimum interference with the individual's rights of privacy in the interests of the public weal.

Lord Diplock acknowledged that the exercise by the state of any power to read or listen to communications between private citizens involved an invasion of their privacy; the public had always looked on that with suspicion and distaste. But crime had become more organized, international trafficking in drugs brought enormous profits and terrorism had become worldwide.

Lord Diplock did a random check of typical cases for which warrants for the interception of communications were sought by the three services whose practices he was reviewing: the police, the Customs and Excise and the security service. He tested whether six conditions were being observed:

1. That the public interest which would be served by obtaining the information was of sufficient importance.
2. That the interception applied for offered a reasonable prospect of providing the information sought.
3. That other methods of obtaining it had been tried and failed or were not feasible.
4. That the interception stopped as soon as it had ceased to provide information of the kind sought or it had become apparent that it was unlikely to provide it.
5. That all products of interception not directly relevant to the purpose for which the warrant was granted were speedily destroyed.
6. That such material as was directly relevant was given no wider circulation than was essential for carrying out that purpose.

Before any warrant could be issued the applicant service had to satisfy the Home Secretary or Secretary of State for Scotland that the first three of those conditions were fulfilled. If information given by the applicant services to justify the issuing of a warrant was not accurate, the main safeguard of requiring the warrant to be issued by the Secretary of State in person broke down.

Lord Diplock examined the files of cases he selected at random and talked to the officers directly involved. He was satisfied that the information provided was stated with accuracy and candour and the procedures within the three services for checking applications before submission were "appropriate to detect and correct any departure from the proper standards".

The applicant services and the Home Office or Scottish Office reviewed at fixed intervals, as required, the need for continuing each warrant. But there were also good practical reasons for the applicant services to be anxious to have



Lord Diplock: "Interference with privacy minimized".

warrants cancelled if they were not providing useful information. Interception of communications, particularly telephone communications, was expensive in skilled manpower.

A system of quotas for the total of warrants outstanding at any one time on behalf of the police and Customs and Excise provided added encouragement. Although the quotas appeared to be reasonable and adequate to the needs of the service concerned, their existence made it conscious of priorities in deciding whether to apply for the issue or renewal of a warrant in borderline cases.

The security service, in cooperation with the Special Branch of the Metropolitan Police, used interception to gather intelligence about subversive, terrorist and espionage activities capable of constituting a threat to the peace or safety of the realm. That involved longer-term objectives than those connected with tackling crime or with the duties of the Customs and Excise, so warrants for the security service tended to remain in force longer. The same applied to certain anti-terrorist interceptions on behalf of the Metropolitan Police Special Branch.

After carefully inspecting cases selected at random and holding discussions with the desk officer in charge of that particular care, Lord Diplock said he was satisfied that warrants were applied for only in proper cases and were not continued any longer than was necessary for carrying out their legitimate purpose.

The remaining conditions, relating to the speedy destruction of non-relevant material and the restriction of circulation of directiv relevant material, were being satisfied.

Recordings of telephone conversations were listened to by officers of the applicant service who had been specially briefed on the case for which the warrant had been issued and on the kind of information it was hoped to obtain. The officer concerned would make a note of the gist or, if he regarded it as sufficiently important, the actual words, only of those parts of any recorded conversation that were relevant to the information sought.

The tapes were then returned to the Post Office for erasure, which took place in a matter of days, and reused. The officer's notes of the relevant parts of the conversation were made available only to those other officers of the applicant authority who were concerned with the particular case.

"It is observed as a strict rule that they are never disclosed to any outside authority or private individual, nor are they ever used in evidence

Lord Diplock's terms of reference did not extend to Northern Ireland. He said in the report that he proposed to continue making random checks of applications for the issue of warrants on behalf of the services he had reviewed.

The appointment of a judge as an independent monitor was announced by the Home Secretary when the White Paper, *The Interception of Communications in Great Britain*, was published last year.

The Government said it had decided against legislation but that it would be desirable for a continuous, independent check that interceptions were being carried out in accordance with established purposes and procedures.

The White Paper, the first report on Government-authorized telephone tapping since that under Lord Birkett in 1957, came after growing concern about possible abuses and allegations in the *New Statesman* that thousands of illegal tappings were taking place.

The Interception of Communications in Great Britain (Cmnd 8191, Stationery Office, £1.10).

Leading article, page 17

BBC enters the market with £200 home microcomputer

By Kenneth Gosling

The BBC yesterday announced its entry into the home computer business with details of an agreement with a British company to produce a microcomputer that will sell for £200.

An initial sale of 12,000 is expected and the machine will have a key role in a series on computer literacy starting on BBC 1 next January.

Mr George Howard, BBC chairman, said last night at Leeds Polytechnic that the system was "highly versatile".

The BBC pointed out that while cheaper home computers were being advertised, one for only £99, the model that would be made under licence by Acorn, Cambridge, would be highly sophisticated.

It will also have some highly practical applications. The user will be able to play games, to plan the economical use of his domestic electricity supply, work out his tax liability and develop skills in mathematics, spelling and typing. It will help the businessman to run his office, and assist the amateur astronomer, musician and photographer.

Those facilities will be available in print-out form, but also by adding a receiver costing about £100, through the teletext transmissions of the BBC, providing a range of computer programs

The computer will give access to the data available on the BBC's Ceefax and the Independent Broadcasting Authority's Oracle teletext systems; and by adding another inexpensive extra, access as well to British Telecom's Prestel data bank.

Lawyer to await ruling on dress tax relief

Miss Ann Mallalieu, aged 35, a barrister who wants tax relief on the cost of her working clothes, must wait to hear if she can claim such relief.

Dressed in green velvet, she was in the High Court in London yesterday to hear Mr Justice Slade reserve judgment on her appeal against a tax commissioners' refusal to grant her an allowance

Miss Mallalieu said she was entitled to tax relief because she never wore her lawyers clothes except for her work. She maintained that the black dresses, shoes and tights and the white blouses she had to wear for work did not suit her blonde colouring.

The outcome of the case is awaited with interest by the rest of Britain's 4,000 barristers, who include 500 women.

OVERSEAS

Appointment in court : A boy of nine, identified only as Robert, on his way to the family court in Manhattan, New York, with Mr Mel Sachs, a lawyer. The hearing concerned a recent bank robbery. Mr Sachs has said Robert is the boy wanted in connection with the hold-up in which a small boy is said to have brandished a pistol

President Chun aims to prevent repression

From Jacqueline Reditt
Seoul, March 3

More than 2,000 prisoners were released today from 30 South Korean jails to mark the inauguration of President Chun Doo Hwan as the republic's fifth head of state.

The prisoners were released under a special amnesty offered by President Chun which will eventually affect a total of more than 5,000 people. In recent months, Mr Chun has increasingly gained the respect and support of the Korean electorate and won a landslide victory in the presidential election last month.

On the eve of the inaugural ceremony, the President instructed companies and organizations not forcibly to mobilize employees and schoolchildren to line the streets and wave flags, a common practice in the past. But today, many thousands of people converged on the centre of Seoul to watch a parade and to demonstrate their support freely.

The inauguration ceremony, held at the huge Chamsil gymnasium in Seoul, was attended by 9,000 invited guests, including over 200 foreign delegates representing some 70 different countries.

The ceremony was televised live throughout South Korea and Japan. The Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra and a choir of 1,000 high school girls opened the festivities with the national anthem and brought the ceremony to a close with the "Song of the President".

In his inaugural address, President Chun said that Korea's history was "laden with the sorrows of a small country and the angers of a subjugated people". He emphasized the need to remember the humiliations of the past and so ensure national security in the future.

The President made the point that the harsh Japanese colonial rule had lasted for 36 years. Since independence from the Japanese, another 36 years had passed—years also filled with chaos and turbulence. This coincidence of history must end the old era, he said.

The President made it clear that North Korea remained a prime concern. He repeated earlier proposals for an exchange of visits between the leaders of the North and South and said the grim bleakness of life in North Korea was without parallel. He added that "the creation of mutual trust between the South and North is obviously a most urgent matter".

President Chun, who imposed draconian measures when he first took control of the country last year but has recently relaxed many restrictions and lifted martial law, promised to prevent the recurrence of political repression and abuses of power in South Korea.

He said that affairs of state would be conducted according to the law in future but warned his countrymen that it was equally important that all citizens obey the laws of the country.

He described himself as "a man who is stern with himself and sincere and honest with others" and promised to establish the tradition of peaceful transfer of power.

The day was declared a national holiday and the midnight to 4.0 am curfew was lifted for one night. The inauguration was celebrated throughout the country with fireworks, cultural programmes, free admission to museums, palaces and parks, official receptions and a presidential banquet at the Blue House.

Four ministers leave Thai Cabinet after oil dispute

From Neil Kelly
Bangkok, March 3

A bitter dispute dividing the political parties in Thailand's coalition Government, headed by General Prem Tinsulanonda and formed a year ago, is disrupting the conduct of government business, according to officials.

Four ministers from two parties have already resigned and more are expected to leave in the next few days.

Two of the biggest parties, Social Action and the Democratic Party, say they will withdraw altogether from the Government, which has been in disarray since a disagreement over oil supplies came into the open more than two weeks ago.

Some leading Social Action members accused the Prime Minister of "misrepresenting the facts". General Prem, who is also Army Commander-in-Chief, belongs to no party. He has had wide support from elected members of the Lower House of Parliament and from the appointed members of the Upper House.

He is, however, accused of handling the present crisis unfairly and uncertainly. There have even been rumblings from senior military officers who are said to be unhappy about the Government's management of the economy.

Discord erupted inside the Government after accusations of malpractice in connexion with a new oil agreement with Saudi Arabia and after the Government's termination of a foreign company's lease of an important oil refinery in Bangkok.

The Government said it cancelled the lease nine years early because the Summit Industrial Corporation (Panama) frequently infringed the contract during the 16 years it operated the refinery.

There have been rumours that a number of prominent Thais have done well out of the Summit company.

Instant lashing

Monrovia, Liberia, March 3.—Passengers arriving at Monrovia's international airport with illegal drugs are to be given 25 lashes immediately, the government newspaper *New Liberian* said today. The airport is also to have its own court.

Police open fire

Dacca, March 3. — More violence erupted in the eastern Bangladesh town of Sylhet today, and unofficial reports said two people were killed and several injured when police opened fire to disperse demonstrators who were attacking offices and private buildings.

Secretarial and Non-secretarial Appointments

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Further information from the Registrar, (Room 214, Whiteknights House), The University, Whiteknights, Reading RG6 2AH. Closing date 25 April, 1981.

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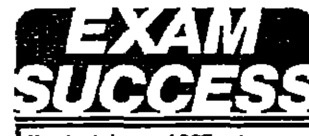
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A copy of each scheme may be seen at the Divisional Offices of the Authority whose addresses are set out below.

A copy of a scheme, or schemes, may be obtained free of charge on application to the Director of Finance, Nugent House, Vastern Road, Reading.

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R. A. R. Gray,
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also on pages 28 and 29

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THE TIMES

Warsaw authorities to grant clergy wider role in society

From Dessa Trevisan
Warsaw, March 3

The Polish Roman Catholic Church may regain access to institutions from which clergymen were excluded in the late 1950s when relations between the Church and the communist regime deteriorated under Mr Wladyslaw Gomulka, the former party leader.

At a meeting held yesterday as part of negotiations between the Government and the Church Commission, it was suggested that the demands of the priests to be allowed access to hospitals, old people's homes and prisons would be granted though details still have to be negotiated.

But, judging by a communiqué issued after the meeting, an agreement in principle seems to have been reached and further talks between church representatives and the ministries and institutions directly concerned are to be held.

The meeting provided again an opportunity for the Government to underline the "positive role" played by the Catholic Church in helping to restore social peace in response to an appeal made last month by General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the Prime Minister.

In his parliamentary address on his election to the premiership, General Jaruzelski pledged his Government to continue to work for an improvement in relations with the Church.

The Church's responsible and patriotic stand was also underlined by the army newspaper, *Zolnierz Wolnosci* yesterday, but while it praised the stand taken by the episcopate and especially by Cardinal Wyszynski, the Polish Primate, throughout the crisis, it accused some clergymen of using the pulpit for political, often inflammatory speeches.

This is the first such complaint for a long time to be made against the clergy, even though the newspaper was careful to draw a distinction between the Church hierarchy and the lower clergy whom it said showed "political zeal" aimed against social peace and order.

The newspaper, which obviously reflects the views of the Ministry of Defence, said that some priests were showing "fierce anti-socialist militancy and that some of their speeches, presumably in their parishes, were meeting with approval of some "groups of believers" connected with dissident groups.

The newspaper also alleged that some priests regarded Cardinal Wyszynski's plans with hostility and claimed that he had "sold himself to the communists".

But the general tone of Government statements and officially inspired comments is to underline the positive role of the episcopate in calming the atmosphere and in calling for understanding of the situation.

Cardinal Wyszynski has, however, been urging the authorities to recognize the rights of the 3.5 million private farmers to form their own association.

In a homily delivered recently in St John's Cathedral in Warsaw the cardinal said that private farmers had the right to the same kind of organization that was granted to industrial workers. He also told a farmers' delegation which called on him last week, that they had the right to set up such associations that would suit their interests best.

He blamed Poland's present food shortages largely on the Government's agricultural policy which the church had been criticizing for years.

This year, Poland will have to import some 10 million tons of grain. In the Government's new programme, agriculture is to be given top priority and the private farmers have been promised equal opportunities with the state-run farming estates.

But the agricultural tool industry is obviously not responding fast enough and shortages of spare parts are threatening to put at least 40,000 tractors out of work.

Walesa visit: Mr Lech Walesa, the leader of the independent trade union movement Solidarity, will visit France from March 22 to 29 at the invitation of French trade unions, Solidarity announced tonight (Reuter reports from Warsaw).

It will be Mr Walesa's second trip abroad as leader of Solidarity. He will be accompanied by a number of union officials

Fishing boats ferrying in weapons from Nicaragua easily evade three patrol ships

Tiny Navy fails to halt flow of arms to El Salvador rebels

From Michael Leapman
La Unión, El Salvador, March 3

As the small, grey patrol ship, one-third of El Salvador's functioning Navy sputtered out into the volcano-fringed bay here, one of the journalists on board said: "I wonder whether we'll catch any Nicaraguan arms smugglers?"

Not much chance. The three ships working out of a theoretical fleet of eight have never managed to intercept any of the tons of arms believed to be coming by sea from Nicaragua, 29 miles across the Gulf of Fonseca, to the left-wing rebels fighting in the hills.

Lieutenant-Commander Humberto Villalta, commander of the country's only naval base, says he estimates that more than 20 ships, each capable of carrying up to three tons of arms, must have slipped into one of the dozens of little rock-framed harbours at this eastern end of the country's 170-mile coastline. One boat capsized and fishermen have been picking up boxes of Russian-made grenades in their nets.

Even if his guess at the number of arms ships is correct, it is still a puzzlingly small proportion of the 600 tons of arms and ammunition that have been smuggled here, according to captured documents published by the State Department in Washington.

The two other main routes—by air from Nicaragua and across difficult mountain terrain from Honduras—can scarcely account for the difference.

Lieutenant Nelson Aristides Anguilo, crisply turned out in a khaki uniform, is captain of GC6, one of the three working ships. As we eased between hilly headlands into the open bay, he said that many of the arms may come not in large shipments but in twos and threes at the bottom of a fishing boat.

If this is the case, Nicaragua's assurance this week that it will halt supplies may be hard to fulfil.

"Look at those, those and those", he said, pointing to a cluster of fishing boats bobbing in the sunlit bay. "You could hide rifles and ammunition in those, and you can't control it.

"The trouble is these patrol boats are too noisy. I had a colleague go up there" — he pointed to the top of a volcano —"and he said he could hear us from that distance. The Nicaraguan boats hear us coming and have time to turn away."

He took us to the edge of El Salvador's territorial waters, marked by a line of five large rocks jutting suddenly from the sea. These, the Farallone Islands, are the physical manifestation of the line President Reagan has drawn between the free and the communist worlds.

To its east are the waters of left-wing Nicaragua. Rising behind them is Cosi Guina, Nicaragua's western extremity, where—according to Salvadorean officers—a modern port and radar facilities have been built to help the arms flow.

Commander Villalta points out that his tiny Navy is not only under-shipped but also under-manned. "We have 150 men", he said. "We need 1,000 and many more ships." Of these 150, only three are officers, one for each working ship.

At the weekend three American advisers went to see what help could be given to the Navy and a further seven Americans are due today.

"They are surprised at what they saw", said Commander Villalta. "They have seen the deprivation in our suplies. I think they will help."

Help is needed, but the Americans may have been even more surprised at the lack of any sense of the base being on a war footing. It is a collection of ramshackle buildings at the end of a cobbled street in a somnolent port, where the only signs of the civil war are the well-armed soldiers lolling on strategic corners. When a few reporters visited the base on Sunday afternoon, the duty officer and the commander were having a siesta.

It is still something of a mystery what happens to the arms that are supposed to be coming to the rebels in such great numbers. At the weekend government troops completed a successful five-day land and air counter-offensive, in which they regained some of the areas the guerrillas won in their "final offensive" in January.

The leftists do not seem to have made much of a fight of it, even on the Conchagua volcano just behind this coast where their arms arrive. Government troops flushed them out of their hilltop hideaway, meeting little resistance.

Among the captured weapons shown to reporters, only three out of 16 rifles were modern ones, of the kind the United States has accused communist powers of supplying. Many of the rest were ancient, though there were a few Russian grenades.

It could be that the guerrillas are saving the modern weapons for a new offensive planned for May, when the onset of the rains will thicken the undergrowth and make concealment easier.

But after last week's successful operation by government forces, the rebels have lost many of their January gains and will have to start from a weak position, battling government troops refreshed by extra American help

Miss Tania Harris leads a "Kiwis Care" an anti-strike demonstration of the Auckland "silent majority".

30,000 march in protest against trade union militancy

From Our Correspondent
Wellington, March 3

The heroine in Auckland today was Miss Tania Harris, an office worker of 22, who led a crowd of about 30,000 in a march along Queen Street in protest against trade union militancy. It was one of the biggest demonstrations there for 30 years.

Miss Harris, who carried the New Zealand flag, was overwhelmed by the response. She says she is not against trade unions but for New Zealand.

Key sections of the economy were returning to normal today after week-long troubles provoked by the arrest of pickets at Auckland airport. Baggage men and other members of the Engineering Union employed by Air New Zealand went on strike first over wages and then in protest at the airline's use of non-union labour.

Other workers throughout the country mainly in transport, timber and meat processing industries went out in sympathy.

The Federation of Labour joined the protest against the arrest of pickets who have been remanded on charges of violating the airport security

Last week the Government rejected the federation's plea to abandon the prosecutions. Instead it is expected to agree to discuss with the federation the possibility of giving legal sanction to peaceful picketing.

In return, the federation has ordered all strikers back to work.

The anti-strike march in Auckland with its theme: "We have had enough", and patriotic fervour undoubtedly reflected widespread public resentment at trade union militancy and the inconvenience and economic loss

US steps up military assistance to junta

From David Cross
Washington, March 3

The United States decided to step up its mili[…] involvement in El Salva[…] where American-backed gov[…] ment forces are fighting […] wing rebels.

In a statement published […] Washington late last night, […] State Department announ[…] that an extra 20 mili[…] advisers as well as $[…] (£11.5m) worth of equipm[…] would be sent to the Sa[…] dorean Government. This […] increase to 54 the number […] American servicemen in […] country and double the am[…] of economic and secu[…] assistance to some $50m.

A State Department spo[…] man said the additional gr[…] of advisers will provide […] Salvador's Government […] expertise in intelligence, m[…] tenance, communications […] basic training methods. […] emphasized that they w[…] "not accompany Salvador[…] armed forces outside t[…] garrison areas or participat[…] any combat operations".

The spokesman also said […] the Administration was st[…] ing an increase in economic […] to El Salvador. Reports f[…] San Salvador have sugge[…] that the Government there […] seeking as much as $200m […] $225m.

The extra military equipm[…] announced by the S[…] Department last night will […] clude helicopters, small ar[…] military vehicles and ra[…] equipment.

The extra advisers and m[…] tary equipment are less ge[…] ous than some reports […] week had suggested they mi[…] be. But some 44 Democr[…] members of the House of Rep[…] sentatives have sent a mess[…] of protest to President Reag[…] warning him of the possibi[…] of "another Vietnam" […] central America.

"Your Administration […] focused on a military solut[…] to the Salvadorean conflic[…] the message said. "We beli[…] it would be in America's b[…] interest for you to encourag[…] dialogue between the opposit[…] forces and the junta."

Mr Reagan and his fore[…] policy advisers seem int[…] however, on making El Salva[…] the first test of the new Adm[…] stration's determination to c[…] ter what it regards as worldw[…] "communist - inspired sub[…] sion".

In addition to assisting […] Government in San Salva[…] the Administration is trying […] cut off the flow of arms to […] rebels from Cuba via Nicara[…] and Honduras. Indeed, Am[…] can threats to cut off aid […] the Government of Nicara[…] unless that country stops […] shipment of arms across […] territory appear to be payi[…] off.

Mr Alexander Haig, t[…] Secretary of State, told […] porters that Washington h[…] now received "certain ass[…] ances" from Managua t[…] steps would be taken to h[…] the flow of war material.

According to Administrati[…] officials, the Nicaraguans ha[…] agreed that arms have be[…] moving across their territ[…] from Cuba.

Washington recently s[…] pended a final instalment […] about £7m worth of econom[…] assistance to Nicaragua af[…] the arms were spotted crossi[…] that country's territory.

Whether the suspension w[…] be lifted will be known in ab[…] a fortnight.

Arafat optimism over Tehran peace mission

From Tony Allaway
Tehran, March 3

Mr Yassir Arafat, the leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization, arrived in Tehran tonight to resume talks on ways of ending the five-month Iran-Iraq war.

He arrived from Saudi Arabia one day ahead of the scheduled return of other members of a special Islamic mission charged with attempting to draw the two sides towards peace. The mission, which includes four heads of state, has already visited Tehran and Baghdad once this week and is conferring in Riyadh, the Saudi capital.

The Palestinian leader told the official Pars news agency that there were no special reason for his arrival ahead of the rest of the mission. He said that Mr Habib Chatti, the Secretary-general of the Islamic Conference and a member of the mission, would discuss the results achieved so far in a press conference here tomorrow.

Mr Arafat was "very optimistic" about the outcome of the talks. This feeling may have been encouraged by some small chinks Iran has shown in its defiant attitude since the mission left Tehran on Sunday.

A special meeting between Ayatollah Khomeini, the Iranian leader, and President Bani Sadr of Iran, to discuss the mission today indicated that Iran was at least giving the delegation more credence than to previous efforts

But foreign military observers in Tehran reacted coolly to a sugestion made by General Valiollah Fallahi, the deputy chief of staff, last night that Iran might agree to a short ceasefire in order to allow Iraq to withdraw its troops.

While a few observers wrote it off as a mere "public relations exercise", others said it reflected at best the view of the moderate political camp in Iran.

Egypt honours generals

Cairo, March 3.—President Sadat of Egypt led thousands of army officers at the funeral here today of Lieutenant-General Ahmed Badawi, his Defence Minister, and 12 senior officers killed in a helicopter crash yesterday while visiting troops in the Western Desert.

The President, in the uniform of supreme commander, walked with the self-proclaimed Shah Reza of Iran behind the horse-drawn gun carriage carrying the Minister's body.

The bodies of nine generals and four other senior officers killed in the crash lay on army jeeps draped in the red, white and black colours of Egypt.

The officers all boarded the same helicopter as the minister for reasons of economy, the newspaper *Al Akhbar* said today.

A military spokesman and an eyewitness said the helicopter tail hit a lamp post as it took off and the machine, a Soviet MI8, exploded as it hit the ground close to the Libyan border. The four crew and a Defence Ministry officer who survived are being questioned

Ministers to meet amid hopes for Belize future

By David Spanier
Diplomatic Correspondent

Hopes are high that one of the last and most difficult of Britain's colonial problems, the future of Belize, formerly known as British Honduras, will be resolved this week.

A ministerial meeting between Guatemala and Britain will be held in London tomorrow and on Friday, in an attempt to reach a settlement, opening the way to a constitutional conference and independence by the end of 1981.

The fact that Señor Rafael Castillo Valdez, the Guatemalan Foreign Minister, has agreed to come to a meeting in London, after the recent talks at official level in New York, is seen as an encouraging sign.

Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, will open the meeting, and give a lunch for the Guatemalan delegation. Mr George Price, the Premier of Belize, is also attending the talks.

Although all the parties are now anxious to settle the dispute, which revolves around Guatemala's much cherished territorial claims on Belize, the success of the conference is not assured. The crux of the difficulty lies in giving Guatemala the kind of terms which it could regard as an honourable settlement, in return for dropping its claims.

It may be that some form of economic package, consisting of development assistance and improved access on the sea routes, would satisfy Guatemalan public opinion.

In any case, Britain intends to bring Belize to independence, in accordance with the United Nations resolution on the subject which was approved by a vote of 139 to nil, by the end of the next United Nations sessions due to finish by December 31.

The great advantage of securing an agreement with Guatemala is that the process of bringing the country to independence could then be conducted swiftly and smoothly, without the necessity for maintaning British troops in Belize.

The existing garrison, totalling about 1,600 men, includes infantry units, Harrier, Puma and Gazelle aircraft, an RAF regiment of Rapier anti-aircraft missiles to defend the airfield, and a Royal Navy warship

Major Haddad sends in an explosive demand for his £2.5m back pay

From Robert Fisk
Sidon, March 3

Major Haddad's first shell came hissing over Sidon just after 10 am and banged through the roof of a classroom in the Evangelical School for Girls. The second missed Sidon altogether, soared over the city and plopped into the Mediterranean beyond the twelfth century castle of St Louis, sending up a plume of spray worthy of a Second World War film.

It was Major Haddad's way of demanding his back pay—all £2.5m worth of it, accrued over two years and three months and allegedly owed by the Lebanese Government to the major and his 2,000 renegades soldiers in the Israeli-supported enclave of southern Lebanon.

On the basis of his daily bombardment of Sidon, Major Haddad must need his back pay very badly indeed.

Not that the first shell today came as a surprise to the gentle and elderly ladies who manage the 120-year-old evangelical academy on the little hill above the Sidon railway tracks.

Only a few hours before, Major Haddad announced over his "Voice of Hope" radio station that if he could not get his money he would cause that amount of damage to the ancient Crusader city.

The school principal decided that her 1,000 pupils would be excused today's classes—which is how it came to pass that Major Haddad's projectile thundered into a classroom for 11-year-olds and pulverized the tiny wooden desks without scratching a soul.

Down at the office of the Sidon municipality, a teenaged schoolboy ambulance driver, slightly disappointed that his potential heroism had been vitiated for lack of casualties, jerked his head knowledgeably in the direction of a large hole just beside the city's main shopping street.

"That happened at 10 o'clock on Sunday", he said. "It broke all the windows in the municipality. The shells always come at 10 o'clock. After that, Major Haddad goes off to lunch".

By south Lebanese standards, the shelling of Sidon is a somewhat modest business. In three days of carefree shelling the major's artillerymen have done little more than wound seven civilians and blow up the Sidon water mains.

Only 20 civilians have been killed by long-range shellfire in Sidon in the past two years and the vegetable market did not close down this morning. Out in the Sidon roads, two rusting tramp steamers did not even bother to manouvre out of range.

But there is no sense of nonchalance in Sidon's redstone governorate offices where Mr Halim Fayad, Governor of south Lebanon, tries to administer a province which he cannot completely tour for fear of his life. He last visited Major Haddad's barrack town of Marjayoun in 1976 and things, as he ruefully agreed today, have changed since then.

"Israel is just trying to do what it has always tried to do", he said. "It is trying to depopulate the land. But our people are staying where they are".

He sat this morning in his heavily carpeted office, a demure, bespectacled figure in a dark business suit, fingering a set of bright orange worry beads and listening to the reports of Sidon's charming but impotent constabulary.

"We were shelled on 73 days last year and what has been going on these last three days is an act of aggression", he said. "Sidon is a civilian city and far from the border and the pretext given for the shelling is imaginary".

Israel, he said, was directly responsible for the bombardment—whatever guns had actually fired the shells—and Mr Fayad was of the opinion that the United Nations Security Council should consider the plight of his city.

But the Security Council is, in fact, being asked to consider much more than Mr Fayad's little capital. The Lebanese Government said this afternoon that it was seeking a debate on the escalation of Israeli attacks across southern Lebanon in view of yesterday's air raid by the Israelis which left 15 dead and 42 wounded in the village of Abu el-Aswad.

Nine of those killed were Palestinians and six were Lebanese.

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ISRAEL
10 miles

Mr Haig to visi[…] Middle East early next mont[…]

Washington, March 3

Mr Alexander Haig, the Se[…] retary of State, will make h[…] first trip to the Middle East […] the beginning of next month, […] was announced here today.

A State Department spok[…] man said that Mr Haig, w[…] will leave Washington on Ap[…] 3, will spend a day each […] Egypt, Israel, Jordan and Sau[…] Arabia, returning to Washingt[…] on April 8.

He will discuss "shared co[…] cerns about the security of th[…] strategic area", the spokesma[…] added. At the same time, h[…] wanted to hear the views of th[…] countries' leaders on how […] proceed with efforts for a com[…] prehensive peace agreemen[…] between Israel and its neigh[…] bours.

The State Department's de[…] scription of the visit's aims co[…] firms that the Reagan Admin[…] istration will give more priori[…] initially to combatting allege[…] Soviet intervention in South[…] West Asia than to resuming th[…] Camp David peace process.

Kabul talks on hijack of aircraft

By Our Foreign Staff

The Pakistan Government is holding talks with Afghanistan over the hijacked Pakistan International Airlines Boeing 720 which was still in Kabul last night with 148 passengers and crew on board. The hostages were reported safe

The direct government talks are the first to be held since Pakistan and other Islamic nations decided in January last year to break off diplomatic relations with Afghanistan and not to recognize the Babrak Karmal regime.

It was officially announced in Islamabad that three Pakistani officials had opened talks with Afghan foreign ministry officials to secure the release of the passengers.

Kabul radio said the three hijackers (not one as originally thought) wanted to land the aircraft in Tehran. Iran's reply was being awaited.

The aircraft was hijjacked on Monday on a regular flight from Karachi to Peshawar. It is believed that one of the hijackers, identified as Alam Gir, a Pakistani said to have belonged to the Pakistan People's Party of Mr Zulfiqar Al Bhutto, the executed former Prime Minister, is demanding the release of all political prisoners in Pakistan, including members of his family.

No change allowed in Canada Bill

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

Conservative and Labour MPs who want to challenge the proposed new constitution for Canada if it comes to Westminster for approval in the form of the present draft now before the Canadian Federal Parliament, have been told by Ministers that there will be no opportunity for amendments in either the Lords or the Commons.

This is because the "long title" and preamble of the Bill will be so worded that the details of the constitutional reform could not be amended. Both Houses would be presented with the choice of either approving the Canadian request in full, or rejecting it completely.

Members of the Commons and Lords who are worried about the impact of the present proposals, as put forward by Mr Trudeau, the Canadian Prime Minister, and his Government, on the powers of the Canadian provincial governments have been preparing for a detailed attack on the provisions when they come to London for approval.

Eight of the 10 Canadian provincial governments are opposed to Mr Trudeau's reforms on the grounds that they reduce the powers that the provinces have now under the federal structure and make for a unitary state, with the federal government having immensely greater powers over natural resources, including oil, natural gas and minerals.

Mr Trudeau is asking that the Canadian constitution, which is based on the British North America Act, 1867, should be "patriated", so that in future Canada will be able to make changes without reference to Westminster. In addition, he includes an amending formula for the future, with the possible use of a referenda to get approval when provincial governments cannot agree and a charter of human rights.

If there are still eight provinces opposing the plan when it comes to London, many MPs say they would not approve the whole package. That is why messages giving warnings of possible trouble have been sent to Ottawa. One senior Conservative MP, who has been closely involved in the preparations at Westminster, said that he doubted whether the Trudeau scheme, unamended, would get through.

There is already increasing pressure for the Government to consider alternative action: to have a Bill granting "patriation" and asking the Canadians to do the rest. But the legal experts in London and Ottawa agree that this cannot be done without making some provision about the future process for constitutional amendment. It is on this amending formula that the Canaadian provincial and federal governments have failed to get agreement after 50 years of debate.

It was because of this disagreement that an "exception clause" was written into the Statute of Westminster in 1931, at Canada's request, requiring proposals for constitutional change to continue to come to London for final enactment.

Mr Bruce George, Labour MP for Walsall, South, said yesterday: "MPs at Westminster do not want to be dragged into Canada's internal disputes. But if Mr Trudeau cannot get agreement in the provinces we shall be forced to try to block the measure until it is changed to meet the needs of a federal Canada.

"The Commons select committee which examined the legalities concluded that Westminster still has a duty to protect the federal structure of Canada and that means taking notice of those provinces who object."

Sir Anthony Kershaw, Conservative MP for Stroud, and chairman of the select committee, has been told that the Government's legal experts challenge the legal basis for the committee's conclusions. He is now asking that the Government should make a formal reply to the Select Committee in the form of a White Paper, and that the committee's report and the Government's comments should be debated in the House before the Canadian request comes.

A leading authority on Parliamentary procedure confirmed last night that the Government's plan for an "unamendable" Bill is feasible.

Defiant Mr Brezhnev proclaims party to be 'sound'

Continued from page 1

319 to reflect the increase in party members in the country, who now total 17,500,000.

He declared that the party was in good shape—"a powerful, sound and mature organization". In spite of the predictions of inevitable failure by unnamed enemies of communism, "socialism is alive and is developing" while its critics were long forgotten.

Mr Brezhnev seemed to strike a defiant note, possibly reflecting deep unease in the leadership over the apathy and boredom with ideology among Soviet youth, when he added: "It is advancing steadily. And it is not that we simply believe—we know beyond a doubt—our supreme goal, too, will be reached, Communist society will be built."

After giving the traditional salutes to the party and people, peace and communism, everyone in the Kremlin Palace of Congresses, including President Babrak Karmal of Afghanistan and other foreign leaders, rose to sing the "Internationale".

Eighty-two members elected in 1976 were not reelected—either because they had died or were not renominated. In all the party's central bodies, whose elected officials total 545 compared with 511 in 1976, about 28 per cent were elected for the first time.

In his closing speech this morning, Mr Brezhnev promised that the "new composition of the party's leading organs" would keep a close watch on the unity of party ranks. He said the leadership would concentrate on two main tasks: communist construction and consolidation of peace.

He called for the strict fulfilment—and, if possible, overfulfilment—of the new five-year plan, and reminded the party that it could keep its position as vanguard of the people only by "continuous, unceasing struggle for the interests of the working people"—a remark that observers see as a reference to the events in Poland which have been a main theme of this congress.

Echoing his forthright report at the opening of the congress eight days ago, he pointed out that nothing came easily, and improvements in living standards could be achieved only by hard work from the people itself.

The congress, which was stage-managed down to the smallest detail and whose delegates did not allow themselves the slightest questioning of policies, had been conducted, he said, in a spirit of "unity and cohesion" and showed the absolute unanimity between party and people.

The following is the complete list of the Politburo.

Full (voting) members:
Leonid Brezhnev, 74, General Secretary.
Yuri Andropov, 66, Chairman of the Committee of State Security (KGB).
Konstantin Chernenko, 69, Central Committee secretary for administration.
Mikhail Gorbachev, 50, Central Committee secretary for agriculture.
Viktor Grishin, 66, secretary of the Moscow party organization.
Andrei Gromyko, 71, Minister of Foreign Affairs.
Andrei Kirilenko, 74, Central Committee secretary for party work.
Dinmukhamed Kunayev, 69, party secretary of Kazakhstan.
Arvid Pelshe, 82, Chairman of the party Control Committee.
Grigory Romanov, 58, secretary of the Leningrad party organization.
Vladimir Shcherbitsky, 63, Party secretary of the Ukraine.
Mikhail Suslov, 78, Central Committee secretary for propaganda and foreign relations.
Nikolai Tikhonov, 75, Chairman of the Council of Ministers.
Dmitry Ustinov, 72, Minister of Defence.

Candidate (non-voting) members:
Geidar Aliev, 57, party secretary of Azerbaijan.
Petr Demichev, 63, Minister of Culture.
Tikhon Kiselev, 63, party secretary of Byelorussia.
Vasily Kuznetsov, 80, Deputy Chairman of the Supreme Soviet.
Boris Ponomaryov, 76, Central Committee secretary for relations with non-ruling parties.
Sharaf Rashidov, 63, party secretary of Uzbekistan.
Edward Shevardnadze, 53, party secretary of Georgia.
Mikhail Solomentsev, 67, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Russian Republic.

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Book review

British Government and Its Discontents

By Geoffrey Smith and Nelson W. Polsby

(Harper & Row, £7.95)

A conversation with either Mr Smith or Professor Polsby is a pleasure; a conversation with both of them is a real treat. It will not therefore surprise their many friends, admirers, and students that *British Government and Its Discontents*, which is based on conversations between the two authors, is enjoyable, well-informed, and wise.

The book was presumably intended mainly for an American audience; it assumes only the sketchiest knowledge of Britain. But it could and should be read on this side of the Atlantic too, as one of the more valuable additions (despite its self-imposed limitations) to the mounting literature on British decline.

The authors bring different qualities to the book. Mr Smith is thorough, fair, and judicious; the section on devolution presumably owes much to him and reminds us that he has written better on this subject than any other commentator. Professor Polsby brings to his first study of our political system the trenchant wit and abundant commonsense which have been the hall-marks of his work on American politics. What the authors have in common is a belief in the high importance of the political arts, not least in mobilizing and retaining consent for the purposes of government in a free society.

"Britain", the authors note, "is to be distinguished from such countries as Canada and Brazil in that it has become a middle-sized power through shrinkage not growth". They concede that Britain is still a more agreeable country in which to live than many which are more prosperous. Continued economic decline, and the prospect of relative decline becoming absolute, could change all this and threaten our social stability and our traditions of civility and tolerance.

There is no schmaltz in their balanced description of Britain today; unlike one or two recent American correspondents in this country (presumably still paid at home rates) they do not find in Britain's failure to cope successfully with its problems a convincing picture of what the rest of the world should try to be like. Nor do they go to the other extreme and write off any chance of recovery. Britain is not necessarily sliding to destruction with, as our former ambassador in Washington once argued, little or no chance of making our economic appetites compatible with our democratic liberties. There should be an up-turn in the Jay-curve.

That will only happen, however, if we recover our nerve and our optimism. The authors argue that *in order to do that* we must strengthen our political institutions "by broadening their capacities to build public consensus". They would like to see an increase in Parliamentary control over the executive; this would ensure not only better government and legislation but also a greater measure of popular consent for *what is done in the public's* name. Similarly, we need to open up the process of decision-making within government itself. The responsibility for the mistakes and the successes of public policy "must be widely shared as a means of increasing the legitimacy of government among those who bear its costs and reap its benefits".

There is plenty of room for argument about the specific remedies advanced by Mr Smith and Professor Polsby. But there will be broad and increasing agreement with the two propositions on which much of their case rests. First, as the late Mr Maudling once said, most economic problems can be solved only by political means; in the authors' words, "arguments over economic strategy are secondary to the problem of creating the political conditions for any economic policy to be successful." Second, *A party that aspires to be the natural governing party cannot afford to be constantly ideological.*

Chris Patten



Only the best is good enough for Broadway

New York

There are two barometers of the state of Broadway which are clearly visible without the need to cross a theatre threshold. One is the queue which winds from the cut-price ticket booth on Times Square and the other is the ease—or otherwise—of finding a table for Wednesday lunch at the myriad of tiny restaurants between 42nd and 55th Streets on the West Side.

A few days ago, when a 36-hour rainstorm had transformed New York from Drought City, which it had been dubbed in the press for most of February, to something rather closer to Monsoon City, the queue for reduced price seats, lashed by the heavens, coiled and serpentined down towards the *New York Times* building. Those in line waited patiently because for the lucky there were good pickings: for example, $12 off a seat at the Met for the one performance of the season in which Domingo and Milnes were appearing together in Verdi's *Un ballo in maschera*. A high proportion of what is on offer is excellent.

At 1.00 pm on Wednesdays the Broadway restaurants are packed and by 2.00 pm they are almost deserted as the clientele have gone off to that most sacred of New York institutions, the midweek *matinee*. The ladies from Westchester head for the non-lyric theatre, of which the best of the new bunch is *Fifth of July* at the New Apollo with Christopher Reeve dropping his Superman wings to play an immobile Vietnam veteran—shades of Jon Voight in *Coming Home*.

The families head for the musicals. *Just how so many* children get time off from school right in the middle of term has never been satisfactorily explained to me. But it could be argued that an afternoon spent at *The Pirates of Penzance* (Uris) improves the mind, to say nothing of the spirits, much more than a couple more hours in the classroom.

The current Broadway boom is founded on the musical and the competitive vigour that it generates. Everything is rehearsed down to the last half-second. If the material is a little thin here or there then it is the job of the director and performers to do the covering up so that most of the audience will not notice. Take, for instance, *A Day in Hollywood, a Night in the Ukraine*. Dick Vosburgh's musical double bill made a *mildly diverting entertainment* when it was seen at the Mayfair in London, fine if you had dined well but of no more than university revue standard if you were feeling critical.

At the Royale it has been transformed into a zippy and sophisticated evening thanks to the sets of Tony Walton and the choreography of Tommy Tune, who is currently in charge of *Whorehouse* at Drury Lane. Preference for the first half of the bill, a sing and dance down Hollywood's memory lane, or the second, a Marx Brothers invasion of Chekhov's *The Bear* (territory also visited by another Walton, Sir William), will depend on your attitude towards those Immortal Four. As a devotee, I will take *The Bear*, and in particular the Harpo of Priscilla Lopez. It is, though, going to make the Walton opera that much more difficult to listen to in future.

The exceedingly high standards in the musical theatre are making producers more and more reluctant to open officially until they are as sure as they can be that the product is right. The queue of productions waiting to get into Broadway at the moment is such that there is little inclination to nurse suckly shows: the patient is turfed out of bed to make way for something healthier. Even *Pirates*, which appears to be assured of capacity houses for some time to come, looks as though it will be ejected from the Uris later in the summer because that theatre is already committed to the Rex Harrison revival of *My Fair Lady*.

It was probably the old, *familiar sensation* of someone else breathing down the neck that caused all three of last week's major openings to be postponed: Donald Sutherland in Edward Albee's version of *Lolita*, Chita Rivera and Donald O'Connor in *Bring Back Birdie* (*Bye Bye Birdie* twenty years after) and *Sophisticated Ladies*, a tribute to Duke Ellington. *First nights on* Broadway now seem to be as adjustable as they were under the late Walter Felsenstein at the Komische Oper in Berlin. He had a majestic disregard for dates and rang up the curtain only when he was ready to, which is in direct contrast to the West End's dictum of sticking to schedule and hoping for the best.

Perhaps, to judge from *Sophisticated Ladies*, which has now been unveiled, the Felsenstein-Broadway approach pays off. *Ladies* had its troubles, *apparently*, while *out* on the road but under the direction of Michael Smuin they have sets—Tony Walton again—which puts the band on the kind of platform a good night club would provide, atmosphere is created simply through neon signs.

The legendary nighteries flash by—The Cotton Club, Cafe Society, After Hours Joint—and so do the numbers, 20 in each half. The Duke is remembered chiefly in dance. Gregory Hines producer of some of the finest tap seen on Broadway for a long time, with Hinton Battle (former Dance Theatre of Harlem) and Judith Jamison (former Alvin Ailey). Broadway has never hesitated to raid the ballet companies in search of performers, or for that matter the Manhattan supper clubs. By casting the trawl wide the quality is netted, as it has been here. *Sophisticated Ladies* is the best of the present long line of composer-performer musicals and when Miss Jamison and Mr Hines combine in "I'm beginning to see the light" we hear the very best of Ellington. And that is very good indeed.

The versatility of the artists in *Ladies* is remarkable. Gregory Hines can dance, tap, sing, even take over on percussion. He can also play the audience, an art surely best acquired in those Manhattan supper clubs. At Freddy's on the East Side a lady called Pudgy, who lives up to her name without overdoing it, has an act consisting entirely of insulting those who have come to see her. It is not the Barry Humphries or Bruce Forsyth technique of picking on a few unfortunates in the stalls, but the readiness to take on one and all, like some prizefighter of repartee. The art lies in thinking quicker than anyone else and also knowing when to stop before a martini is thrown in your face. It is called professionalism.

There are times when a visiting Englishman is inclined to despair and begin to believe that this professionalism is an entirely American quality. Not so. To prove it there are *Amadeus* and *Piaf*, both considerably changed for Broadway but both announcing their native origins. There is Simon Gray's *Close of Play* just opened at the Manhattan Theatre Club and there is Nicol Williamson in John Osborne's *Inadmissible Evidence*, taking the dock once more as Maitland at Roundabout/Stage One. Jim Dale has made *Barnum* his own and Tessie O'Shea opens in *Broadway Follies* in the middle of the month. Ian Richardson, as dapper and neat in dress and diction as Alec McCowen, may well steal such honours as are going as Humbert Humbert's alter ego in *Lolita*.

And above all there is George Rose as Major-General Stanley in *The Pirates of Penzance*. Accept no substitutes. Well, on the afternoon I saw *Pirates* Linda Ronstadt was substituted by Karla Devito, former lead singer of Meat Loaf, who looks every inch a future star. But Mr Rose is unsubstitutable: his model of a major-general is the top performance of this ebullient Broadway season.

John Higgins



Gregory Hines in Sophisticated Ladies—some of the best tap seen on Broadway for many a year



Photograph by Donald Cooper

Helen Mirren.

Faith Healer
Royal Court

Irving Wardle

"I did it because I can do it", announces Brian Friel's hero, casting a disconsolate glance around an empty meeting hall with a faded poster on the back wall advertising his miraculous powers. What the rest of the play shows is that sometimes he can do it, and sometimes he *cannot*, *but that throughout* his vagabond years touring the Celtic outback, he can always rely on the support of his manager and his mistress. They are totally devoted to him; while he is devoted only to his capricious gift.

From this discordant relationship, Mr Friel develops a strange homecoming fable: *beginning in Ireland* when Frank (the faith healer) elopes with a judge's daughter, drags her round his Welsh and Scottish circuit where occasional successes turn into an unbroken run of failures, rows and destitution, reaching their lowest point when he abandons her to deliver a stillborn child in the back of the van. The trio then return to Ireland, where on one night in a Donegal pub, his powers return and he walks out to face an unnamed fate. My guess, from row A, is that he is shot at dawn.

A bigger question than that is why Mr Friel, with such a story to tell, should have put it in the form of four retrospective monologues; an approach that dilutes the impact of the events, eliminates relationships and present-tense *action, and involves* the author in agonies of cumbersome exposition. "I tell you what, why don't I go back 12 months and tell you about that night?"

Mr Friel is an experienced craftsman and certainly knew the risk he was taking; but the only explanation I can offer is that he was more concerned with the effects of time and the *fallibility of subjective memory* than with more immediate dramatic qualities. A sneaking suspicion also lingers that he was himself undecided about precisely what the story was saying, and took advantage of his characters' conflicting memories.

As each appears in turn, Frank, Grace, and Teddy contradict each other on points of detail; parentage, dates of family deaths, or who was responsible for introducing Frank's sessions with the blind and maimed with a record of "Just the Way You Look Tonight". This raises the question of who they are supposed to be talking to. Stephen Lewis's Teddy, for instance, seems to be holding forth to a crowded bar; and there was much gratitude among Monday's audience for this onset of fun in a hitherto mirthless evening. Also, Mr Lewis builds something very moving from the ironic claim that he maintained a strict business relationship with his companions when everything he says shows that they were his whole life.

But what audience does the bereaved Grace have in mind as *she paces her suicide garret*, glass in hand? Helen Mirren plays her as a woman possessed by an unspeakable memory; periodically brightening up as she finds some temporary distraction, but always drawn back to the memory she cannot face, and relapsing into a sing-song litany of Welsh village names. You cannot fault the emotional transitions, but they leave you free to remember that it is Mr Friel, rather than the character, that is withholding the vital bit of information

Frank is played by Patrick Magee, resuming the alliance with Christopher Fettes that began magnificently with *Dr Faustus*. Once again, the result *is a performance* that combines all Magee's baleful, black Irish authority with delicate highly disciplined phrasing

Exploring byways of the ballet

Dance films
The Place

John Percival

On four successive Mondays at the Place, the London School of Contemporary Dance is presenting a series of dance films. The first programme this week was mostly ballet; contemporary dance comes next, followed by dance ritual and, finally, Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers in *Flying down to Rio*.

Actually, the work I found most interesting in the opening programme, which was also the longest of the seven films shown, was an early example of German modern dance, Oskar Schlemmer's *Triadic Ballet*. Schlemmer, a painter and dancer, invented a theory of abstract dance in which the *performers were to* be depersonalized by bulky geometric costumes made of padded cloth or stiff, painted papier-maché.

The *Triadic Ballet* was the most famous example, premiéred in 1922 at Stuttgart, before Schlemmer joined the Bauhaus. The filmed version is of a reconstruction made in 1970. The choreography is simple, relying heavily on the shape and colour of the costumes for its effect, but within that self-imposed limitation the results are often striking. Although the technique is one of *abstraction*, the *work includes* both humorous and sinister passages.

I suspect that Schlemmer's work may look better on screen than on stage. Norman McLaren's Canadian *Pas de deux* could exist only on film, since it depends entirely on the superimposed multiple images to reinforce some pallid choreography. Another duet, *In a Rehearsal Room*, was even more schmaltzy.

What with those on the one hand, and two examples of post-war French expressionism on the other, the programme spent *time exploring byways of* ballet. Still, the French works had splendid performances, from Michèle Seigneuret and Maurice Béjart in the latter's *Symphonie pour un homme seul*, Jeanmaire and Nureyev in Roland Petit's *Jeune homme et la Mort*.

It is always interesting, too, to see the film made by Douglas *Fairbanks Jnr of Pavlova in* snippets from six of her dances, even though one of them is shown at disastrously accelerated speed. I thought, however, that John Mueller's montage of photographs and drawings of Nijinsky in *L'Après-midi d'un faune* gave little idea of that ballet's structure or mood.

A rag-bag of a programme, all *told*. Perhaps later programmes will make more apparent the intended theme of the relationship between camera and choreography. Or perhaps that is too vague a topic to hold up anyway.

Hedda Gabler
Yorkshire

Michael Church

Costumes? Loved them. Decor? Ravishing. Soundtrack? Exquisite. Adaptation? Excellent (ie, did not notice it). How nice to be able to be nice about a dramatic work by John Osborne.

Despite Yorkshire Television's efforts, however, I feel I have seen no more than the mighty shadow of the real *Hedda Gabler*. This has little to do with the inherent limitations of the medium (about which Mr Osborne has some pertinent things to say in his typically splenetic piece in this week's *TV Times*). It has a lot to *do with that* crucial and quite controllable element in the production process, casting.

For Ibsen, the sap was still rising. He described Tesman as a young-looking 33 with a round, frank, happy face. Hedda was an elegant 29. Mrs Elvsted, 27, was "a slender little thing with pretty, soft features". Brack was a suave and youthful 45.

Last night Denis Lill, Diana Rigg, Elizabeth Bell and Alan Dobie each looked, or were made to look, a decade older than their exemplars. Each looked worn down by life. The sexual tensions at the core of the play were thus at least partially dissipated.

There was so much to admire in the way this production built up its suffocatingly genteel atmosphere that it seems churlish to find further fault, but in another major respect it did not live up to expectation. The climax, which should come like the anticipated crack of doom, came like a damp squib, and almost as a surprise. We needed a trace of Hitchcockian suspense. Rather than being shown it, we should have been made to picture the scene as Hedda thumps the piano for the last time, and the explosion itself should have been much louder.

That Hedda's suicide should have come as a surprise, rather than as her characteristically morbid response to a situation she could not endure, has to do with the way Diana Rigg played the part. *Cruel, capricious, disdainful*, her every utterance betrayed an intelligence which ran rings round everyone else's; her every gesture a sensibility which made other people's seem crude and fumbling. Unwillingly pregnant, she was in a permanent rage.

But there was something coldly controlled about her, something too impassive at moments when she should have been beside herself with excitement, burning Lövborg's manuscript, for example. This Hedda *would have found some other* way out of her marital predicament. Oddly enough the Hedda who remains searingly on my mind is the one presented eight years ago on the stage of the Royal Court, and in this same adaptation, by Jill Bennett.

Poor Punch and Judy. At the hands of the Arts Council's film-makers (BBC2) the history of *their* troubled marriage was not so much tarted up as tarted out of existence.

Cabaret Futura
Latin Quarter

Richard Williams

For four hours each Monday night Richard Strange takes over a Soho discothèque to present a variety of rock bands, comedians, performance artists and other like-minded exhibitionists under the banner of Cabaret Futura. After only a few weeks it has gained a reputation as the place where all the posturing diversity of the metropolitan avant-garde rock scene gathers to relax and inspect itself.

Strange, formerly the singer with the late and unlamented *Doctors of Madness*, plainly has an affection for the cabarets of Weimar Berlin: the ambience is sleazy, the clientele is pansexual, and the entr'acte tapes included Scott Walker's interpretations of Jacques Brel and someone singing "Surabaya Johnny". These gestures, of course, only make explicit those connexions first suggested by Lou Reed in the late '60s and later followed up by David Bowie.

This week's programme began with Mick Firbank, an unheralded performance artist from Leeds. Probably inspired by Jonathan Pryce in *Comedians*, he adopted the character of a British Movement skinhead in a clumsy but obviously heartfelt attempt to explain the reasons why culturally deprived white youths fall for amateur fascism. Unfortunately his presentation, with slides and music and costumes and props, did not match his evident sincerity, and his purpose was widely misunderstood.

The Event Group, who followed Firbank, are Cabaret Futura regulars, with a proverbially inconsistent collective temperament. On this occasion they chose to deliver a piece for electric piano, two drummers *and no fewer than six* bass-guitarists, all of whom thrashed around on a fast funk riff. As an amusing novelty, it worked well—particularly when the musicians were fed with sandwiches and champagne during their marathon.

Tymon Dogg, who appeared in a cameo role on the Clash's latest album, was perhaps too conventional for this *setting*. Like an unusually passionate busker, he performed on violin, harmonica and guitar, sometimes accompanying himself by pedalling a small harmonium; his high, querulous voice and modally-inclined songs reminded me of Family and their singer, Roger Chapman. It was certainly brave of him to attempt an anti-fashion song in the face of this preening audience.

Two of the New York bands which played at the Rainbow *10 days ago also put in appearances*: the Bush Tetras, whom I thought we had deported after that debacle, and the Bongos, who were lumpy and unspectacular. Cabaret Futura is such an interesting environment, however, that sooner or later it will *throw* up a group or an artist to match its ambitions.

ENO's new Wagner

Two new Wagner productions, *Tristan and Isolde* and *The Flying Dutchman*, frame next year's season at the London Coliseum from the English National Opera, which includes three other new productions, the first London presentation of its Monteverdi *Orfeo* and at least 16 revivals.

Reginald Goodall will conduct *Tristan*, which opens on *August 8, and, as for Welsh* National Opera, Linda Esther Gray will sing Isolde. She will be partnered by Alberto Remedios in a production by Glen Byam Shaw and John Blatchley, designed by Hayden Griffin.

Later in the month there will be *Orfeo*, with John Eliot Gardiner conducting and Anthony Rolfe Johnson leading the cast. It will be followed on September 24 by *Otello*, with Charles Craig, Rosalind Plowright and Neil Howlett; this will be conducted by Mark Elder, the ENO's music director, produced by Jonathan Miller and designed by Patrick Robertson and Rosemary Vercoe.

Charpentier's *Louise* will be presented on October 28 in a co-production with the Opera at Liège, Belgium. Produced by Colin Graham and designed by René Allio and Christine Laurent, it will be conducted by Sylvain Cambreling, with a *cast led by Valerie Masterson*, John Treleaven and Richard Van Allan.

Pelleas and Melisande will open on November 25, with Mark Elder conducting and Russell Smythe and Eileen Hannan in the title roles. It will be the first London production by Harry Kupfer and will be designed by Peter Sykora and Reinhard Heinrich.

The Flying Dutchman will be presented on February 10 next year, conducted by Elder and produced by David Pountney. Norman Bailey will sing the title role and Josephine Barstow that of Senta.

Sir Charles Mackerras will conduct three of the revivals: *Rosenkavalier*, with Lois McDonall and Sally Burgess; *Aida*, with Elizabeth Vaughan; and *Mary Stuart*, with Dame Janet Baker and Rosalind Plowright.

Martin Huckerby



Bournemouth SO/Segal
Festival Hall

William Mann

The recently appointed principal conductor of Bournemouth *Symphony* Orchestra, Uri Segal, brought his new charges to London on Monday and boldly displayed their corporate achievement in Tchaikovsky's *Manfred* Symphony. It is notoriously difficult to execute and interpret both accurately and satisfactorily, but worth the challenge for its marvellous music.

Manfred used to be in the BSO repertory during the early 1960s when their conductor was Silvestri, but he felt obliged to alter the *scoring*, and I doubt whether many of his players remain in this young-looking orchestra. What has remained is the fine-drawn, delicately beguiling cantabile quality of the Bournemouth violins, once renowned and heard again with pleasure here, in Astarte's melody (the symphony's second subject, so to speak) and in the Alpine waterfall Scherzo, whose scampering figuration was negotiated with outstanding neatness and sparkle.

Discipline, in the BSO under Segal, *remains strong, as could* be heard in the exactly controlled flood of notes whereby Tchaikovsky wrote out the *accelerando* from the introduction of the first movement into its principal quick section. Likewise, in that movement's recapitulation, the rapid triplet and off-beat chords for low wind and horns, loud, clear, and thrilling, though against them Manfred's theme on the strings had to struggle to be heard.

Segal is clearly an ardent devotee of the work, to judge from the intensity of his reading, and the care devoted to internal detail. The din of the welling organ, in the scene of Manfred's death, swamped the rest of the orchestra. Tchaikovsky ordered *Grand jeu*, perhaps thinking in terms of a harmonium, which he preferred to Balakirev's suggested organ.

It was a stirring performance, encouraging for the BSO's well-wishers. Before the interval, conductor and orchestra manfully supported and framed a grand, poetic, zestful account of Chopin's E minor piano concerto by Emanuel Ax, whose insight and range of keyboard colour grow more and more impressive.

Janina Fialkowska
St John's/Radio 3

Hilary Finch

For her first recital in St John's, Smith Square, the young Canadian pianist Janina Fialkowska chose a short Chopin programme, introduced by the early Beethoven C major Sonata, Op 2 No 3.

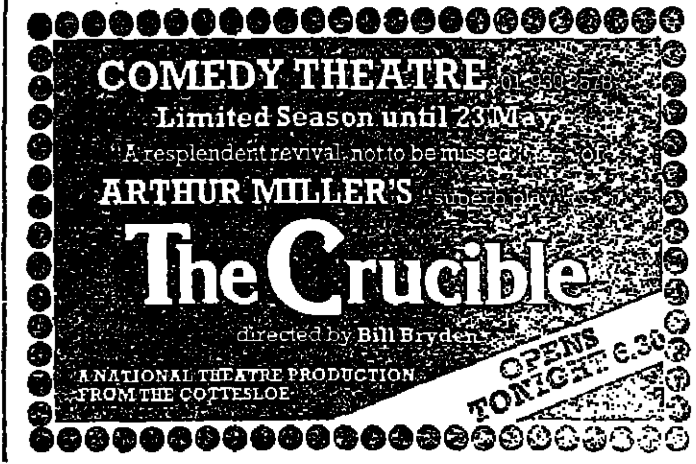
Slight, refreshingly unassuming, her stage presence belies in all but its seriousness the massive strength and driving energy which permeates everything she plays. The concerto-like first movement of the Beethoven was propelled forward with more decisive earnestness than brio, its structure firmly grasped and clearly delineated; yet there was room within its vitality for a finely controlled arpeggio passage, delicately sharpening into focus before a brisk, no-nonsense cadenza. After an Adagio of compelling, if deceptively leisurely, strength, the exuberant Scherzo with its hurtling Trio was perhaps a shade too hurried for the final Assai Allegro to have its *full force*.

The precisely calculated, intensively disciplined playing *that invigorated this last movement*, yet threatened to deprive it of a certain spontaneity, characterized Miss Fialkowska's Chopin no less markedly. There was so much to admire in the A flat major Ballade: the nonchalant, totally unmannered lilting and questing of its opening bars, the firm-fingered fluency and arm strength that sustained a powerful momentum at climax points.

Likewise, for all its poise and clarity, the opening of the C minor Nocturne, Op 48 No 1, lacked a gentle flexibility, a sense of hushed, imaginative exploration to contrast adequately with the more rigorous rhythmic life which developed.

After a forthright, bitingly angry C sharp minor Scherzo, Miss Fialkowska's encore, the A flat major Waltz, confirmed that here was a delightfully bold, direct player, full of power and joy articulated through a disciplined technique and substantiated by thoughtful and intelligent musicianship. Miss Fialkowska need not be afraid of being less rigorous with herself interpretatively: such a sturdy and reliable foundation often craves and can *easily withstand being graced* with a little more poetry.

Some of the notices on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions.



PARLIAMENT, March 3, 1981

British weapons system brought to attention of US: efforts to get more orders for equipment

House of Commons

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said she could not comment on each and every action of the United States Government. There were further question time exchanges about her statement supporting the United States position over El Salvador.

She was urged by Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition, to examine the possibility of some form mediation in El Salvador.

The issue arose after Mrs Thatcher had been questioned about her visit to America.

Dr Maurice Miller (East Kilbride, Lab) said: Will she telephone her friend, President Reagan, in the White House, and inform him in regard to the British-American initiative over the rapid deployment force that John Wayne and Errol Flynn are dead and that David Niven was 71 last Sunday?

Mrs Thatcher (Barnet, Finchley, C): That remark was cheap and unwarranted and will do damage to this country. (Conservative cheers.)

Answering another question, **Mrs Thatcher** said that during her visit she had renewed her invitation to President Reagan to visit this country.

Mr Peter Emery (Honiton, C): Will she assure the President that he will have the warmest welcome? (Labour cheers.) What positive steps can she take prior to his visit to carry out that part of her statement yesterday concerning American purchasing of British defence equipment?

That wish has previously been frustrated by Congress or by the industrial lobby on Capitol Hill. Positive action will be needed to turn that intention into reality.

Mrs Thatcher: I discussed this with Defence Secretary Weinberger. We have recently signed a memorandum of understanding for the United States purchase of Rapier.

Secretary Weinberger told me the Administration are giving their support to the development and production of the Harrier AV8B which is for Congress to decide, and that the Administration will give its support to the United States retaining the JP 233 programme which is an airfield denial weapon.

We took the opportunity of mentioning a number of other weapon systems—the Searchwater Radar, Wavell command control system, Stingray torpedo, Giant Viper and the Hawkjet trainer.

We are concerned on this side with getting orders for this country.

We have excellent defence equipment. We are concerned that as every member of the alliance cannot be involved in the production of every weapons system, we should concentrate our research and development on those things we do best. All of that we put to Secretary Weinberger.

Mr Dennis Canavan (West Stirlingshire, Lab): Agreeing that it is wrong for the Russians to use their military might to prop up a puppet regime in Afghanistan, why is she so afraid to tell President Reagan that it is wrong for the Americans to use their military might to prop up a puppet regime in El Salvador?

Has the so-called Iron Lady now been reduced to President Reagan's puppet?

Mrs Thatcher: On El Salvador, I hope Mr Canavan will support the statement we made before we went to the United States and will support the call that arms should not be supplied to guerrillas. That is where the initial interference is coming.

Mr Eldon Griffiths (Bury St Edmunds, C): Her visit to Washington has not only revived the Anglo-American alliance but created a much better climate for British trade, investment and jobs.

Bearing in mind it is deeds not words that count, will she hesitate before making any further reductions in British defence equipment, because that could leave us unable to carry out in practice some of the undertakings she gave to the Americans to assist them in defending freedom outside as well as inside Europe?

Mrs Thatcher: In our first year of office we reached our target of spending 3 per cent more in real terms on defence. This year we shall go over that target, possibly to 4 per cent and even as much as 5 per cent. In view of that performance, I do not think we can order extra equipment.

Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition, (Ebbw Vale, Lab): When she gave her statement expressing the Governments' support of the American position regarding El Salvador, was she aware of the fact they were about to despatch some 13 million tonnes of military equipment there? Does she approve of that form of military intervention?

Has she had a chance of examining the possibility of some form of mediation as was orginally suggested, I understand, by the West German government.

Whether it was suggested by them or not, will she and the Government seek some form of mediation in what has been described by the last American ambassador in El Salvador as a civil war?

Will she take some constructive initiative in this matter?

Mrs Thatcher: There are extensive armaments getting to the guerrilla forces in El Salvador. It would be most advisable if those were stopped and then the people of El Salvador must be left to sort out their own matters in their own way and have a chance to choose democracy.

I cannot comment on each and every action of the United States administration. I fully understand their alarm and concern at any subversive activity in a country so close to them.

Mr Foot: She says she cannot comment on each and every action of the United States Government. Did she not examine the amount of military supplies sent to El Salvador before she made her statement approving their policy?

Mrs Thatcher: The need to examine evidence is one thing. To comment on every particular action is another.

Threat of nuclear war cannot be wished away

Unilateralism was the enemy and not the friend of arms control, **Mr John Nott**, Secretary of State for Defence, said when he opened a debate on the independent strategic deterrent. Russia's rulers, he said, would use nuclear weapons as blackmail if they ever got the chance.

Mr Nott (St Ives, C) was moving a Government motion: "That this House endorses the Government's decision to maintain a strategic nuclear deterrent and the choice of the Trident missile system as the successor to the Polaris force."

He said he viewed nuclear weapons with horror. Nobody could contemplate what happened at Hiroshima and Nagasaki with any milder feelings. In ethical terms the issues were difficult if not agonizing.

Military power was wielded in the Soviet Union not by the Russian people but by rulers whose history and patrimony was that of Stalin and Lenin and the deeds they wrought.

We have to deal (he said) with the leaders of a closed totalitarian state of hostile ideology, huge military power, and a proven willingness to use that power without scruple when it thinks it can safely get away with it.

They are capable of, and would use, nuclear weapons as a source of blackmail were we ever to give them such a chance.

Amid these hard realities the Nato alliance could offer no security without nuclear weapons. For the alliance to renounce nuclear weapons would be the ultimate foolishness, and for a country so central to the alliance as Britain to attempt to wash its hands of nuclear affairs while remaining in and being protected by the alliance would be a dishonest and dangerous pretence. (Conservative cheers.)

He knew of the apprehensions about nuclear war among ordinary people worried about their children's future. But these natural apprehensions were misplaced provided Britain stuck to her course and did not gamble wildly on some different one.

Doing more by arms control required genuine will on both sides. But one of these was the Soviet Union which did not share western standards or a western view of the world.

United States governments could not have done more by solemn declaration, costly equipment provision and large-scale forward deployment to demonstrate their engagement to Europe, including nuclear engagement.

He had great confidence in that engagement but nothing short of the event could prove it absolutely. British possession of nuclear striking power, Alliance-committed yet independently controlled, was an insurance premium against any Soviet supposition that the United States might somehow seek to insulate itself from nuclear consequences while abandoning Europe. Britain's capability compelled a would-be aggressor to face two gambles instead of one.

Britain's strategic deterrent was a real enforcement of the Alliance's strength. Now would be a very strange moment, in the world as it was, to lay aside the task.

The core of Britain's nuclear capability, underpinning all the other elements and vital to their deterrent capability, was the strategic force, which could ride out any attack and still deliver upon the Soviet homeland a blow heavy enough, if needed, to rob any aggression of its advantages.

The strategic power was currently provided by four Polaris submarines. Their capability was soon to be modernized by the Chevaline improvement. The force would therefore remain formidable.

But it would not last for ever as the boats were built in the 1960s. Britain only had one strategic deterrent force which was of a minimum size so Britain could not take chances lightly.

It would, at best, be a very chancy gamble to rely on the present force beyond the first half of the 1990s. If Britain wanted to take its deterrent contribution seriously and if it wanted potential adversaries to take it seriously, that gamble could not be taken and modernization had to be faced.

The Government had been very open about the factors which it saw as pointing in favour of Trident. There were three aspects of choice which were of key importance.

First, the choice of the platform from which the missile was delivered was driven above all by the need for invulnerability. The system must not depend on hair-trigger decision in a crisis. Invulnerability provided that opportunity.

Given that, the case for staying with a submarine system was plain, especially as the Soviet Navy had never located one of the Polaris submarines on patrol and the range of Trident would give an even greater area of ocean in which to hide.

Second, the choice between ballistic and cruise missiles. Analysis drove the Government to the conclusion that, for a given weight of deterrent strike, the ballistic method was both surer and cheaper.

In the third aspect of choice—that among missiles two considerations were of especial importance. First there was the timescale. They were dealing with a major investment of resources on a system entering service over a decade from now, and required to last, they must expect, at least 20 years after that.

They could not afford more than one system, nor replacement at frequent intervals. A step forward had therefore to be big enough, not half a step, nor an inching forward. That was why spending billions of pounds on a force reproducing Polaris in new submarines would be foolish.

The second consideration in this choice was one of which, for all its merits, Chevaline sharply reminded them: that systems unique to Britain were very costly. There were big advantages, in cost as well as in capability, in commonality with the United States.

For instance, spares and servicing for Polaris, decades after it had been replaced by the United States, would become more and more hazardous.

Trident was a proven system of great power, firmly in service with the United States.

In short (he went on) if we are to stay in the nuclear business at all the case for Trident as the most cost-effective of doing so is overwhelming (Conservative cheers).

We have to face the fact that a credible nuclear capability for the 1990s does not come cheaper than this. If we are not prepared to afford Trident, we had better get out of the business altogether.

No British Government, he believed, would make that choice.

He knew that many MPs were understanably exercised about the cost. Last summer they had put this at £4,500 to £5,000m. Closer estimating depended on studies still in progres and decisions not yet taken, for example on the precise size and characteristics of the submarine. He was personally detremined to keep the costs close as possible to sus[…] possible to the orginal b[…] assessment.

Even at that they were d[…] ing with a huge investment, was not uniquely huge, beca[…] the Tornado programme, c[…] on the same basis would be u[…] twice as high.

Over the 15-years span of investment, Trident was likely average about 3 per cent of total defence budget and perh[…] 5 per cent at peak.

Trident's average 3 per c[…] demand on resources did create the resource pressu[…] They already existed. The a[…] donment of the strategic nuc[…] deterrent after what would 1990 have been years in succes[…] service, the removal of £5,0[…] from a total 15-years equipm[…] programme of £80,000m £90,000m would not remove resource problem.

However, it would remove central feature of the post-[…] deterrent capability and be not think they should come of the strategic deterrent capabi[…] on grounds of cost.

The submarines would be b[…] in British yards at Barrow the warheads would be made the United Kingdom. Only missiles would be bought in United States and would repres[…] 10 per cent to 15 per cent of total cost.

All of them feared and abhor the idea of war, above all, nuclear war. It must be deter[…] away or negotiated away. It c[…] not simply be wished away. Bri[…] had a distinctive role in deterr[…] which their allies acknowledge[…]

It would be dangerous f[…] in the world as it now was abandon that role. Much the b[…] way to sustain it was to buil[…] new force round the Trid[…] missile.

More judges needed to speed justice

House of Lords

There was an urgent need for more High Court judges to try Crown Court cases in the criminal jurisdiction, **Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone**, the Lord Chancellor, said when moving the Maximum Number of Judges Order 1981.

Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, said the effect of the order was to increase the number of puisne judges from 75 to 77. There was no doubt that people were being kept in prison in anxiety and in a few cases wrongly, waiting for their cases to come on. The greatest cause for anxiety was in the Crown Court.

There was a banding of types of cases in the Crown Court. Rapes and murders and a few of the more important types of crime were reserved for the red judge. The need was for the High Court judges in this sphere not to try the top band of cases.

For more difficult to try from the technical point of view than rapes and murders was the increasing number of lengthy fraud cases running into weeks and even months.

The difficulty of summing up to juries and actually conducting the trial was something which required a judge of High Court calibre to be consistently available for cases of this kind.

More High Court judges were needed, and if the motion was passed the quality of justice would correspondingly improve.

Lord Elwyn-Jones, for the Opposition, said the importance which Lord Hailsham had attached to the availability of High Court judges to deal above all with difficult fraud cases would be well received. It was curious that it was easier to try a rape or murder case than many of the fraud cases.

Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, said cases were taking longer to try. This was a mysterious fact. It was taking, in the South-East, 10 hours on average to try a jury case.

A startling fact was that although the increase had been over the whole country, it remained continuously the case that it took about two hours longer to try cases in London and the South-East than anywhere else in the country.

The order was agreed to.

The Redundancy Fund Bill was read a third time and passed.

Liability for damage from burst mains

Following an undertaking given in the Commons the Government intended to introduce an amendment at the committee stage of the Water Bill to impose on water authorities liability for damage from burst or leaking water mains whether or not they had been caused by negligence, **Lord Bellwin**, Under Secretary for Environment, said when he moved the second reading of the Bill.

He said that at present water authorities could not be held responsible for escapes from water mains unless it could be proved they had been negligent and it was often difficult to prove negligence.

Lord Underhill, an Opposition spokesman, welcomed the announcement but asked if there would be a similar provision for any collapse in the sewerage system which, he said, could be as dangerous as any collapse in the water supply.

Lord Winstenley (L) said the effective provision of leisure opportunities was of paramount importance and the inland waterways network could do a great deal.

At the moment the Countryside Commission was looking closely with the British Waterways Board in providing a new long distance route for walkers linking canal twopaths.

Lord Skelmersdale, Lord in Waiting, said the Bill was deliberately short. While it was appropriate to tidy up one or two anomalies, this was a water supply Bill. His department had sought legal advice and there was no way that any other provisions outside this narrow sphere could be incorporated into it.

As for collapsing sewers, this was one of those things that legislation could not solve; it was a question of more money. The water authorities were fully aware of the problem.

The Bill was read a second time.

The committee stage of the Industry Bill was concluded, and the Pet Animals Act 1951 (Amendment) Bill was read the third time and passed.

House adjourned, 7.01 pm.

Government unmoved by IRA prisoners

The Government would not give way to any protest or demand for IRA prisoners to be given political status, **Mr Humphrey Atkins**, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, said in a statement. He said that on March 1 a prisoner at the Maze refused food and declared himself to be on hunger strike.

The Government welcomed the decision of prisoners in the Maze and Armagh prisons to end their dirty protest and to put an end to the degrading conditions which they had imposed on themselves.

But the claim for political status had been rejected in clear terms by the European Commission of Human Rights, by successive governments, and by all sides of the House.

I wish to make it clear once again (he said), in case there is any doubt anywhere about the Government's position, that we shall not give way on the issue of political status under pressure of further protest action whatever form this takes and whether it is inside or outside the prisons.

Mr Dennis Concannon, chief Opposition spokesman on Northern Ireland (Mansfield, Lab), said the Maze prison was the newest and most modern in the United Kingdom and the prison regime was the most liberal.

There can be no one, IRA or UDR included (he said), who does not realize there can be no going back to special category or special privileges for non-conforming prisoners. Therefore this coming off the dirty protest is another IRA propaganda exercise.

This house should in no way assist the IRA in its efforts. We shall not be pushing Mr Atkins to make another statement, in fact quite the reverse.

Mr Atkins: I agree there is no necessity to make repeated statements. The Government's position is quite clear and must be clear to those engaged in any form of protest in the prisons.

The Maze prison is one of the most modern in the United Kingdom and, I believe, compares favourably with any prison anywhere in the world.

Mr Anthony Fell (Yarmouth, C): A statement of this sort lends an importance to these criminals which they just do not merit.

Mr Atkins: I believe it my business to keep the House of Commons informed of the Government's position and the Government's actions in that part of the United Kingdom for which I am responsible. The actions being taken are serious, they cause tension and difficulty in the Province. It is right that the House of Commons should know exactly where the Government stands.

Mr James Molyneaux (South Antrim, Off UU): We would prefer to regard this as a once-and-for-all statement. There ought to be no need for it to be repeated at frequent intervals.

Is Mr Atkins aware of the resentment caused by daily bulletins on the condition of convicted prisoners without any corresponding bulletins being issued on the terrorists' victims?

Mr Atkins: I take note of his view that this is something on which I need not trouble the House again.

Mr James Kilfedder (North Down, UU): He is to be congratulated on his determined stand and that of the Government which has forced the Provisional IRA to call off the dirty protest by over 400 terrorists after a three year campaign.

Can he do something about certain sections of the news media which are bombarding the public with propaganda issued by the IRA? This will increase as the hunger strike goes on, perhaps unto death, which might lead to further violence.

Mr Atkins: The Government has taken a stand and it has been supported by the House of Commons, that has been a great help to us. I am afraid I do not control the media in Northern Ireland or anywhere else.

Mr John Farr (Harborough, C): Most of what Mr Atkins has told us was in the newspapers this morning. Does he consider statements of this nature are necessary? They provide credence and publicity to the Provisional IRA without which they would probably fade into obscurity.

Mr Atkins: I hope they will fade into obscurity. I believe it my business to keep the House of Commons informed of what the Government is doing but I take note of what he says.

Mr Brian Mawhinney (Peterborough, C): He will have the support of this House and the Province if he continues to stoutly resist any unwarranted demands whether they come from Republican or IRA terrorists, reactionary loyalists or electioneering politicians whether they be British or Irish.

Mr Atkins: What is needed most of all in Northern Ireland is a period of peace and quiet. It is that for which the vast majority of the people of Northern Ireland long. I hope very much it will come about.

Mr William Ross (Londonderry, Off UU): The regime in the Maze has already been described as the most liberal in the United Kingdom. Will he undertake that there will be no further reforms in Northern Ireland until the rest of the United Kingdom has made up and afterwards will he ensure there are no reforms made in Northern Ireland ahead of the United Kingdom?

Mr Atkins: I do not think it would be right, just because of the actions of one or two individuals or even a group of individuals, for the Government to cease its efforts to devise the best possible regime in the prisons wherever they are.

Inspection of hospitals that make medicines

Eighteen National Health Service hospitals making pharmaceuticals had been recommended to cease manufacture following inspection, **Mr Patrick Jenkin**, Secretary of State for Social Services, said during questions.

He added that he was asking for an urgent report on why manufacture had not ceased at each of eight hospitals in England.

Mr Jenkin (Redbridge, Wanstead and Woodford, C) answering a series of questions on the production of pharmaceuticals in hospitals, said: Although, as Crown premises, NHS hospitals are not subject to formal arrangements for the issue of licences or to the other requirements of the Medicines Act 1968, they are subject to similar administrative controls.

All the 480 NHS manufacturing units in Great Britain have been inspected and inspections will continue in 1981 including radiopharmaceutical units as appropriate.

Eighteen manufacturing units in Great Britain have been recommended to cease manufacture, and I am asking for an urgent report on why manufacture has not ceased at each of the eight hospitals in England.

In considering the inspectors' reports, health authorities must weigh the risks of continuing to manufacture against the benefits to patients from having preparations available from their own hospital laboratories.

He added later: I am not aware there have been any series of incidents which would show the medicines manufactured in hospitals are a source of hazard to patients.

The standards of manufacture are a good deal higher than they were a few years ago. What I want to see is that they are brought up to the highest standard.

Mr Paul Dean (North Somerset, C): Is there a need for hospitals to manufacture pharmaceuticals? In most cases it would be cheaper for them to buy from established suppliers outside.

Mr Jenkin: I am not satisfied that every one of the 480 hospitals needs to engage in manufacture as they are at present. Nor am I satisfied that they take account of the full costs of manufacture as compared with buying

'Deplorable' for chemists to sell tobacco

It was deplorable that any member of the health professions should be trading in anything harmful to health as tobacco products, **Sir George Young**, Under Secretary for Health and Social Security, said during questions.

Mr Nicholas Baker (North Dorset, C) asked what discussions had been held with the Pharmaceutical Society about the sale of tobacco products by pharmacists.

Sir George Young (Ealing, Acton, C): None, but I am considering if an approach would be worthwhile.

Mr Baker: Will he encourage and support the Pharmaceutical Society which is discussing a ban on sales, by members, of tobacco products?

It is inconsistent that people who are supposedly guardians of the public health should be selling tobacco products.

Sir George Young. Yes, I agree. It is deplorable that any member of the health professions should be trading in products so harmful to health. (Cheers.)

Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk (Ormskirk, Lab): Given the way the tobacco companies have been dragging their feet on the advertising restrictions, is it time to invoke the Medicines Act?

Sir George Young: We have recently concluded a voluntary agreement with the Tobacco Advisory Council which covers this.

NHS cost of smoking

Sir George Young, Under Secretary for Health, in a written reply, said: An estimate recently made within the DHSS suggests that the annual cost to the National Health Service in England and Wales of inpatient care, outpatient attendances and GP consultations resulting from the main smoking-related diseases was about £115m. at November 1979 prices.

Prescriptions

Sir George Young, Under Secretary for Health, in a written reply, said: The latest estimate of the average cost of a prescription item was £3.14.

Parliamentary notices

House of Commons
Today at 2.30: Debate on regional ing stages.

House of Lords
Today at 2.30: Debate on regional unemployment. Interpretation of Legislation Bill, second reading. Debate on operation of Police Act, 1964.

Bill would put dogs on a shorter leash

Stray dogs not only caused accidents on the roads, but were a nuisance to a large number of farmers and livestock rearers, **Mr Andrew Bennett** (Stockport North, Lab) said when he successfully sought leave to introduce his Dogs (Control) Bill.

He said the Bill would establish a local dog warden service in every area, financed from a realistic licensing fee. At present, 50 per cent of dog owners did not have licences which raised £1m in revenue, but cost £1.6m to collect.

Licences would be required when a dog changed ownership rather than at the age of six months, and would be fixed by tabs to a dog's collar.

In the last 12 months, 20 people had died in accidents caused by dogs. Each year 6,000 animals were killed by dogs worrying them. They were all aware of the nuisance caused by stray dogs fouling footpaths and playing fields.

The Bill was read a first time.

Many would resent civil servant strike

The cash limits already announced will be adhered to, **Mrs Margaret Thatcher**, the Prime Minister, said at question time.

Mr John Watson (Skipton, C) had asked: Following the teachers' 7.5 per cent settlement yesterday, will she confirm the Government's commitment to cash limits for public sector pay?

Is it not the case that the 7 per cent now on offer to the civil servants would in itself add £315m to the Government's own pay bill?

Mrs Thatcher: Yes, I confirm that the cash limits already announced will be adhered to and that the figure he gave is about correct.

I hope the civil servants will have regard to the views of ordinary people, many of whom will resent it very much if those who have good and secure jobs attempt to strike for even more pay.

Security of number plates

Mr Gordon Oakes (Widnes, Lab) asked if the Secretary of State for Transport, would hold discussions with the police and other interested parties on ways of introducing a more controlled and secure system of issuing vehicle number plates.

Mr Kenneth Clarke, Under Secretary of Transport, in a written reply, said: I am aware that the police and some other bodies have expressed concern about the security of vehicle number plates. I am considering the problems and will consult interested parties to see whether any improvements in arrangements are desirable.

Cost of Trident will make hard choice harder

Mr Brynmor John, chief Opposition spokesman on defence (Pontypridd, Lab), said that insufficient urgency was being shown by the United States and by the United Kingdom in testing and exploring Russia's sincerity and flexibility over detente.

He accepted that caution was inevitable on both sides, but the restraint that the Prime Minister was urging upon a President Reagan who already was showing a high degree of caution, was somewhat gratuitously discouraging.

What we all need to face on both sides of the Iron Curtain (he continued) is that true peace will only come from a lessening of the nuclear arsenal rather than by piling up further weapons in an attempt to balance the terror.

In making a judgment about a weapons system that would come into existence in the 1990s it must be right to take account of the likely economic, strategic and other factors which would affect the world at that time. The Opposition would oppose the motion.

The major threads of the argument against the independent strategic deterrent and in particular Trident would be on defence and economic grounds, but there would be some who would direct their arguments solely towards the morality of the decision. Their arguments should not be unconsidered or treated lightly.

What was unusual about the debate was that there were many people, ranging from a former Chief of the Defence Staff, to academic experts in defence, and defence correspondents, who were unpersuaded about the rightness of the decision, or hostile to it.

The final cost of the Trident project in real terms would exceed that which was being quoted at present and would exceed the upper figure. Far too many of the items in the programme depended upon an uncertain technology for it to be otherwise.

The £5,000m of which they are talking must be found from within the existing planned limits of expenditure.

and the Secretary of State fell into the same error, that if the £5,000m was not to be spent on Trident it would be clawed back by the Treasury. That depended on the erroneous assumption that special funds were being devoted to Trident. They were not.

The difficult fact they all had to face was that Britain's gross national product was declining. The coming decade would be fraught with economic difficulty. As a result, the percentage of Britain's gnp spent on defence this year would at least equal that of the United States and might exceed it.

The Secretary of State was fond of saying that hard choices had to be made without ever specifying what. Spending all this money on the Trident system would only make those hard choices harder.

Other equipment and material would have to be cancelled or deferred to keep this project intact. The Secretary of State should say what the likely cancellations or deferrals were to be so that the House could make a proper judgment on the balance of defence advantage.

The amount of money involved in this project was not the sort of minimal expenditure which the Secretary of State had said it was. It was going to be an extra strain upon defence budgets which were already under pressure.

The sacrifice might be worth while if Britain was getting in the independent nuclear deterrent something that would compensate for the likely loss of other defence roles, but she was not.

It was not a question of which was the best system but of examining the rationale for an independent strategic deterrent of a new generation.

One argument it rested on was that there would be a situation in which Russia made an attack on the United Kingdom, an attack so serious that she had to respond with not merely a tactical but a strategic nuclear weapon, but an attack which was not serious enough to involve the United States in coming to her aid.

In other words, in so advocating it they doubted the word of the United States and the value of Nato alliance and had to be f[…] to act alone. That imagin[…] situation was preposterous and credible.

Another argument from Secretary of State had been t[…] while it was not necessarily case that they should act alone was important that Russia sho[…] be uncertain as to whether t[…] would act alone. Nuclear weap[…] were the last area where th[…] should be uncertainty on the p[…] of anybody.

If the uncertainty caused by second decision centre was good a deterrent why not h[…] three, four or five independ[…] centres of deterrence?

The Secretary of State was be[…] logically driven to argue nuclear proliferation, which t[…] country had fought long and h[…] to try to prevent. To go back that would be criminal.

At a time when the economy under great stress and ot[…] services were being axed, they p[…] posed to spend a great deal money on a project which add[…] little to deterrence and which order to afford they would h[…] to distort the rest of their defe[…] effort.

The country could not afford It was advocated on wh[…] unproven grounds. The Lab[…] Party would not rest until t[…] piece of nuclear nonsense v[…] cancelled. (Loud Labour cheer[…]

Distorted US view of goodies and baddies

Mr Julian Amery (Brighton, Pavilion, C) said Mr Jon's speech had repudiated 40 years of a fine patriotic record by the Labour Party in this area and it justified Dr David Owen in saying that it was not he who had changed but the official Labour Party.

The British deterrent had given Britain an influence she would not otherwise have had in relations with the United States and with other nuclear powers inside Nato and at disarmament talks.

Today the only sure barrier this country had was to convince any aggressor that an attempt to invade and occupy it would meet devastating resistance, far outweighing any possible gain to the aggressor.

It was the consensus of defence experts on bothsides of the Atlantic that they were entering the most difficult and dangerous decade since the war. Even if they established a balance of power the situation would remain precarious until either disarmament was agreed or the threat of Soviet imperialism faded out.

Mr Enoch Powell (South Down, Off UU) said it was as near certain, as anything could be, that if in 1945 Japan had possessed an atomic weapon and the means of delivering it, the allies would not have destroyed two cities but undertaken alternative ways of bringing Japan to surrender.

The United States was benevolent and friendly to Britain for Britain's infinitesimal addition to their nuclear armaments because the United States could thereby bind Britain to their strategy, their view of the world and their whole concept of the politics of the world.

The American view of the world was to divide it into two—two monoliths and not one; the goodies and the baddies; the east and the west; the free and the enslaved.

It was a nightmarish distortion. Indeed to call it a distortion of reality was complimentary. It was a view of the world which this country could not possibly share or could only share as its own greatest peril.

This country was inherently immensely strong. What it was and where it was made it a formidable power and above all a formidable defensive power. So far it had proved to be invincible.

That power could only be used at the price that it was accompanied by independence. Once Britain attached itself to the outlook, philosophy and purposes of other nations, differently situated and constituted, it would forfeit that importance and greatness which was rightly its and which it still had.

Sir John Langford-Holt (Shrewsbury, C) said that the addition of £5,000m to the defence bill, even if it was spread over a number of years, was bound to present t[…] Government with major proble[…] of adjustment, and they c[…] become most critical when t[…] spending on Trident peaked in t[…] late 1980s.

That would be at a time wh[…] the defence ministry said that expected overall expenditure to increasing at an annual rate o[…] per cent.

Mr Douglas Jay (Wandswor[…] Battersea, North, Lab) said t[…] greatest threat to this countr[…] defence effort was the econo[…] policy of the Government, going far to dismantling the indu[…] tries on which future defen[…] would depend, notably steel, shi[…] building and engineering, the Go[…] ernment was taking risks wi[…] future defence.

Sir Frederic Bennett (Torbay, C) said that if they were to have new generation of nuclear we[…] pons, it should be Trident.

Dr Owen calls for study of another option

Dr David Owen (Plymouth, Devonport, Soc Dem) said he would vote against the decision the Government was asking them to endorse to go ahead with Trident.

He had studied the issue carefully in 1978 and 1979 (when he was Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary) and came to the conclusion then, even in a much better economic climate, that the country was not able to afford the expenditure on Trident, and what was more, that it was premature to make such a decision.

Anyone who spoke in this debate for the Labour Party must be asked if they were endorsing the commitment to membership of Nato which accepted a nuclear deterrence. That question had to be asked because the party outside the House was committed by resolutions to unilateral disarmament.

Were those who were voting against the Trident missile decision also voting against the Polaris weapon system? Were they saying that the Polaris patrols should cease should the Labour Party ever form the government of this country again?

The life of the Polaris submarine had been extended beyond 20 to 25 years. Many people thought its life could go on beyond 30 years and there were good grounds for believing that with a little negotiation with the United State the Polaris missiles themselves could last until the end of the century.

There were other options for Britain which were less sophisticated and effective in a strictly military sense which would necessarily allow Britain, should it decide to do so in 1990-95, to retain a nuclear option.

The budgetary pressures on this decision were mounting. All the evidence of every major arms programme has been of cost escalation; the one exception was Polaris which had been one of the best deals the country had had, delivered to time and cost. He did not have the same confidence in the Trident missile system.

The House was deluding itself if it made a decision on Trident based on the sketchy costings put before it. Those who were every bit as committed as the Secretary of State to Britain's contribution to Nato had the right to question what else in the programme was likely to be sacrificed if that cost escalation continued.

The House should look at another option which had not been given sufficient scrutiny, an option on which a decision would not need to be made for at least another eight or nine years. That was whether to put cruise missiles through the torpedo tubes of an SSM.

Of course this was not as sophisticated as the Trident missile system but there was a serious question whether it would not be wiser, more economic and more in keeping with Britain's economic position if they were to keep open the option of building more SSM's putting cruise missiles into SSMs and having that as a submarine platform, a second strike, perhaps less effective but still a contribution to the Nato alliance which they could afford.

They were being pressed to make the decision now and this had more to do with the Prime Minister's wish constantly to project herself as the Iron Lady than anything else. The decision had been rushed. It was premature.

In the next two or three years there was a chance that if President Reagan and President Brezhnev could seriously start to grapple with arms control it might enter into a major change, a quantum change, in what happened in arms control negotiations.

It would be the height of folly for the House to agree to commit precious parts of the defence budget to an endeavour that it might well not be necessary for the country to undertake.

Those who did not believe President Reagan could make a contribution should remember it w[…] President Nixon who signed t[…] Salt I treaty.

There was growing pressure from people all over the free wor[…] insisting that their governmen[…] take arms control and disarmame[…] seriously.

Mr Nott had shown a welcom[…] recognition of his other respo[…] sibility to detente and arms co[…] trol. It was what the House a[…] country expected of him.

The decision on Trident ought t[…] be examined with a great de[…] more care. He advised his colle[…] gues to vote against Trident bu[…] not in any way to use that as a excuse to endorse unilateral dis[…] armament.

I hope (he said) that Mr Foot will come to the conclusion that it is not in keeping with his responsi[…] bilities to continue to peddle th[…] doctrine of unilateral dis[…] armament—that he votes agains[…] Trident in the full know[…] ledge that were he ever to becom[…] Prime Minister he would continu[…] Polaris and he would not send cruise missiles back without having put them into the forum of multi[…] lateral negotiations and made hi[…] contribution in these debates as a member of Nato committed to nu[…] clear deterrence as part of an over[…] all strategy of detente and deterrence.

Unwise to defer decision: Majority of 68

Mr Anthony Buck (Colchester, C) said Dr Owen was deluding himself if he thought the postponement of this decision was possible. It could not be further postponed.

Mr Eric Heffer (Liverpool, Walton, Lab) said Dr Owen seemed to base his argument on the grounds that the Labour Party had departed from its policy, but he was wrong. The party had not departed from the policy upon which it fought the general election.

The argument he has used about basing his policy on the Labour Party manifesto of the last election (he said) is all one cheap and phoney argument and an excuse in order to find reasons why he and a few of his colleagues should break with the Labour Party and form some sort of new grouping they call the Social Democrats.

Britain should be taking its own decisions in its own way in association with European countries, both in and out the EEC, so there could be a neutralized Europe with no nuclear weapons.

Mr John Bruce-Gardyne (Knutsford, C) said that he was concerned about escalation of the cost of Trident.

Mr John Gilbert (Dudley, East, Lab) said that for the first time since he came to the House he would not be responding to a three-line whip tonight, not because he had made up his mind, but because he paid Mr Nott the compliment of not making up his mind until he had read his evidence to the Select Committee on Defence tomorrow.

He did not object to the United Kingdom having a nuclear capability. They were beastly weapons but had helped keep world peace for 35 years. He could think of several occasions when the tanks might have rolled in Europe had there not been a balance of terror within Europe.

Mr Winston Churchill (Stretford, C) said Trident, which would cost £300m a year over the next 15 years, was a small insurance premium to pay for the maintenance of peace and freedom in the country.

Mr Stephen Ross (Isle of Wight, L) said Trident was the one heavy defence cost which was expendable. He did not believe that there was a sane scenario in which Britain independently would fire her ultimate nuclear deterrent. So why did we need Trident?

Mr Patrick Duffy (Sheffield, Attercliffe, Lab) said the Army did not want Trident. It wondered if it would ever get its new battle tank. The RAF did not want Trident. It was worrying too much about replacements for its Jaguars and Harriers. Not everyone in the Royal Navy wanted Trident. There were many in the Navy with a different order of priorities.

Trident was both unnecessary and undesirable.

Mr Peter Snape, an Opposition spokesman on defence (West Bromwich, East, Lab) said Trident would exert unacceptable pressures on the defence equipment programme through the peak expenditure years of the 1980s.

It represented a massive escalation in Britain's nuclear arsenal. It ill behoved the Conservative Party, which had repeatedly cut this country's social structure, to propose to spend a minimum of £5,000m on this project.

Mr John Nott, replying to the debate, said that facing a horrific escalation of conventional and nuclear weapons by the Soviet Union, last year, its industry produced 230 new intercontinental ballistic missiles, more than 3,000 tanks and nine nuclear submarines.

Britain must be able to convince an opponent that in the last resort an independent deterrent could be used where all else has failed.

It was not sensible to defer decisions on Trident any further.

They had had peace in Europe for more than 30 years and it would be a perilous step to gamble away one system of security which had worked for one which was untried.

The Government motion was carried by 316 votes to 248—Government majority, 68.

SPORT

Ice skating

Omens and charms play their part in championship preparation

From John Hennessy
Hartford, March 3

An old gold watch chain, festooned with rare coins from a variety of foreign countries, is the lucky charm acting on Britain's behalf during the world figure skating championships here this week. Worth several thousand pounds, it will be removed from its usual resting place in a bank vault briefly to nestle in the pocket of Betty Callaway, trainer of Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean of Nottingham. During competition, Mrs Callaway always carries the glittering talisman that has served her so well this past year.

Last March, her star pupils, Krisztina Regoeczy and Andras Sallay (now retired), ended the Soviet Union's 10-year-old domination of ice dance by winning the world title. A month ago Mrs Callaway repeated the formula in the European championships at Innsbruck, this time with the British champions. It was a notable double because on both occasions the Russian victims included the reigning Olympic champions, Natalia Linichuk and Gennadi Karponosov, and the world champions of 1975 and 1977, Irina Moiseyeva and her husband, Andrei Minenkov. Miss Linichuk and her partner also won the world titles in 1978 and 1979.

From the time Lyudmila Pakhomova and her husband, Alexander Gorschkov, succeeded to the world title in 1970, they were beaten only once before retiring in 1976—by yet another couple trained by Mrs Callaway, Angelika Buch and her brother Erich, of West Germany, in the 1972 Europeans. Outside the Soviet Union, therefore, Mrs Callaway's record shines like a beacon.

All this would have seemed highly unlikely in 1946 when Betty Roberts, a member of a convent school party, visited an ice rink (Queen's) for the first time. Girls have been world champions at 16, her age then. It is hardly surprising therefore that Mrs Callaway achieved no great stature as an amateur skater.

Bettye Roberts married Roy Callaway, another of our leading dance specialists and although they are now divorced, they maintain a civilized friendship. Many in the skating world, indeed, were unaware of the domestic rupture for a long time. Similarly, I was shamefaced by the discovery that her "chauffeur", as I called him at Heathrow recently, was her second husband, Bill Fittall.

Mrs Callaway is comfortably off and teaching is more of a hobby than a profession. She has no cadre of young pretenders, preferring to devote herself to one or two couples. There were two last year, the Hungarians and the British champions. There is one this year. But her talents are now widely recognized and the bridge with Budapest erected by way of Miss Regoeczy and her partner, has remained in situ while she keeps a consultant's eye on a young couple for whom the Hungarians hold out a glowing future.

Again, Mrs Callaway has maintained contact with the Germans and she is frequently invited to Oberstdorf for consultation. Miss Torvill and Dean, who once commuted to Budapest, to acquire, among other things, some of the veneer of sophistication of Krisztina Regoeczy and Andras Sallay, now see a good deal of Oberstdorf, the ice dance centre of Germany, where they have the run of three rinks, a gymnasium, a ballet room, and the hotel attached.

It is a matter of pride to Mrs Callaway that her three star couples retained their own characteristics. "I would regard it almost as an insult," she says, "if I were told that any pupils of mine were recognizably Callaway skaters." She concentrates heavily on the compulsories, and expects the skaters to "do their own feet" in the free skating and the original set pattern dance. She will then suggest improvements.

Betty Callaway is a gentle, retiring person, the antithesis of Carlo Fassi of the United States and Stanislav Zhuk in the Soviet Union. "The angrier I am," she says, "the quieter I become".

Simond leads: Jean-Christophe Simond, of France, took the lead after the first compulsory men's figures. David Steele, of the United States, was second and the European champion, Igor Bobrin, of the Soviet Union was third. Simond finished second overall in the European championships held last month in Innsbruck.



Karen Wood, the British figure skating champion, is poised to challenge for the world title in Hartford.

Cricket

England remain in limbo after tour decision is delayed

The future of England's West Indies tour remained undecided yesterday evening, as the statement from the four Caribbean governments involved was delayed beyond the promised deadline. Unofficially, however, it was believed that the Barbados and Antigua sections of the tour would go ahead but the attitude of the Jamaica and Montserrat Governments was not clear.

The delay was caused initially by the need for Mr Frank Francis, a permanent secretary in the Jamaican Foreign Ministry, to consult with his government. The meeting between representatives of the four governments broke up on Monday night, but travelling problems meant that Mr Francis and his government could not ratify the decision taken by the secret meeting in time for the planned announcement.

The England manager, Alan Smith, and his anxious party were left in limbo as government officials argued over the wording of a statement to be made by Mr Henry Forde, the Barbados Minister of Foreign Affairs. It was six days ago that the English Cricket Council asked for an assurance of non-interference for the rest of the tour if the team were to remain in the West Indies. The tour was interrupted last week when the Guyana Government deported Robin Jackman, the Surrey bowler called out to replace the injured Bob Willis, because of his contacts with South African cricket.

The Barbados Daily Nation newspaper said that "sources close to the Government" felt the interpretation they were applying to the 1977 Gleneagles Agreement, which banned sporting links with South Africa, was different from that of Guyana.

Mr Lester Bird, the Antigua Foreign Affairs Minister, came to the conference saying he had received a firm commitment from his government. As it is known that Antigua, which is due to stage the fourth Test match on March 27, has poured huge sums of money into staging its first official Test, optimistic inferences were being drawn by the England party.

The feeling on the cricket loving island of Barbados was that the tour should go on, but all the governments are treading their ground carefully so as not to compromise their anti-apartheid principles.

During yesterday Mr Smith was visited by Peter Short, the West Indies' representative at the International Cricket Conference, and it was understood the West Indies Cricket Board would also make a statement.

Whatever the outcome, England, who have had just one day's cricket in the past fortnight, are going to find it hard to pick up the pieces from a tour which had hardly got off the ground anyway.

Yesterday England were playing a practice match between themselves, plus a few local players, in an attempt to hone their competitive edge. If the tour goes ahead, there will be a 50-over game against Barbados tomorrow in preparation for the four-day game due to begin on Saturday.

John Woodcock writes from Barbados: In an attempt to apply pressure on the government representatives the Barbados Workers Union, a powerful force in the island, said that the English cricketers should go home. At the same time the Democratic Labour Party, which is the official opposition and to whom the BWU is affiliated, have called for them to be allowed to stay and to play.

It was not until Monday night that the most senior delegates of the four countries involved got together for the first time; those from Antigua and Jamaica had both been delayed. Much preliminary work, however, had already been done, with several permanent secretaries playing a leading part.

At no time had anyone from the West Indian Cricket Board been called in, which gives an idea how exclusively political a matter it is. Jeffrey Stollmeyer, the president of the West Indian board, has not so much as been in Barbados, the senior board member here being Mr Short, a former secretary of the board and now president of the Barbados Cricket Association.

RAWALPINDI: Australia under-19s 163; Patron's XI 167 for 3 (Javed Ahmad 75, Saleem Malik 75 not out). Patron's XI won by 7 wickets.

Boxing

Hallacy cast as an extra in Kalule no-chat show

Copenhagen, March 3.—The American junior middleweight Pat Hallacy arrived here today, two days before a 10-round bout against World Boxing Association champion Ayub Kalule, the man Sugar Ray Leonard will fight for the title in three months time. The 24-year-old southpaw from Wichita, Kansas, found himself cast in the role of an extra brought in to warm up the 25-year-old unbeaten Ugandan for the June 19 fight in which Kalule will stake his title against the World Boxing Council welterweight champion Leonard at an American venue still to be decided.

At a press conference soon after his arrival, Leonard's name was what Hallacy heard most often. But he refused to have both himself and Thursday's non-title bout written off as an insignificant interlude in the Leonard-Kalule fever. Calling himself a "real boxer", Hallacy promised to take the fight to the Ugandan and demonstrate why he built up a meritorious 29—5—1 record and won a name back home as "A snake with a big bite".

His manager, Richard Meek was even more optimistic than the soft-spoken Hallacy. "He is one of the best young white fighters in America", Meek said. "I am convinced he will win, look for an upset".

It would certainly be an upset if Hallacy could match boxing skills with the Denmark-based Ugandan—let alone floor him. Nobody has ever managed to do that in Kalule's 35-fight career, no matter how hard they tried. A string of toughies, including the American Steve Gregory, would testify that it takes more than a hard punch to cope with Kalule.

While Hallacy tried his best to keep the Danish sports writers entertained, the Ugandan—also a southpaw—wound up his preparation with a spot of light training without gloves. Punching a sandbag, Kalule displayed his customary lack of interest in his opponent. A man of few words, all he said was that he was in top shape, physically and mentally.

As usual there was something awesome about his calm confidence. His sparring partners and coach Boerge Krogh said the Ugandan seemed to have benefitted from a long rest, including a vacation in Kenya. Kalule has not fought since last September when he outpointed the South African challenger Bushy Bester in the toughest fight of his career so far.

In that bout he looked totally uninspired, but now "Kalule is in perfect mental balance again, and he is hungry for the fight", Krogh said.

The two southpaws will battle it out in the Broendbyhallen indoor arena which seats 5,000. The fight is expected to go the full 10 rounds, on the presumption that Hallacy will not be smart enough to catch Kalule.

The Ugandan, who never does more than needed to make sure he wins, will almost surely concentrate on piling up points with his sharp, systematic counter-punching.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY (v Oxford University, March 6): N. P. Ashford (Corpus Christi), R. S. S. Scott (Trinity), C. Neil Jones (Gonville and Caius), C. F. C. Clifford (Corpus Christi), G. W. J. Goodfellow (Trinity), C. J. Furness (Selwyn) and M. A. Coulthard (Trinity Hall), A. K. Griffin (USW and Girton), J. Beesley (Selwyn).

Olympic Games

Melbourne withdraws

Lausanne, March 3.—Melbourne has officially withdrawn as a candidate to stage the 1988 Olympic Games, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) announced here today.

The withdrawal follows last week's decision by the Australian Federal Government not to finance Melbourne's plans to host the Games as they would prove to costly. Two other cities—Nagoya (Japan) and Seoul—are left as candidates and the IOC will take a final decision at its congress in Baden-Baden, West Germany, in September.

There is also a proposition from Athens for that city to be declared the permanent site for the staging of the Olympics, but informed sources here said the IOC would have to accept the principle of a permanent site before the Greek capital could be awarded the 1988 Olympics. It has been suggested that the Greek idea negates the universal concept of an Olympiad.

Three offers had been received for the 1988 Winter Olympics, from Calgary (Canada), Cortino d'Ampezzo (Italy) and Falun (Sweden), although the IOC has yet to receive the financial guarantees stipulated under the Olympic charter, from the Swedish Government.

Some experienced observers believe Nagoya may now be favourite to stage the Summer Games. Nagoyan officials travelled to Lausanne in November to present the industrial city's formal bid to become the third Japanese site for the Olympics. Tokyo played host in 1964 and Sapporo staged the 1972 Winter Games. An IOC spokesman emphasized, however, that Seoul's candidacy could not be discounted. IOC officials are likely to begin visiting the candidate cities in the "near future".—Agencies.

Skiing

Stenmark's lead remains intact as protest fails

Berne, March 3.—The International Ski Federation (FIS) today rejected an American protest that Ingemar Stenmark, of Sweden, should be disqualified from the one downhill race he has entered in the current World Cup season.

The United States team had argued that Stenmark, who normally shuns downhill skiing, failed to register in time for the "Hahnenkamm" race in Kitzbühel, Austria, on January 17 and should forfeit the 15 combination points he earned.

However a postal vote by the 18-member FIS governing body rejected the American complaint and confirmed the race result. Stenmark finished well down the field in the race but the 15 points have helped him to a 41-point lead over Phil Mahre, of the United States, as the men's World Cup season enters its final phase.—Reuter

Motor rallying

Previous form makes Finns favourites

Estoril, March 3.—Finnish drivers are expected to dominate the Portuguese Rally when about 100 entries from 17 countries set off on the 2,583 km (1,614 miles) course from here tomorrow. Markku Alen, driving a Fiat Abarth, has won this event on three occasions; his compatriot, Hannu Mikkola, in an Audi Quattro, was champion in 1979.

All the Finns are in top form this season and filled the first three places in the Swedish Rally last month, Mikkola winning from Ari Vatanen and Pentti Airikkala. The Portuguese Rally is the third leg of the world championship in which Mikkola is tied for the lead with the Swede Anders Kullang and Jean Ragnotti of France. After weaving through central and northern Portugal, the rally ends next Saturday in Sintra, near Lisbon.

For the record

Cycling

HANOVER: Six-day race: Final placings: 1, R. Hermann (Liechtenstein) and H. Schultz (West Germany), 1246 pts; 2, P. Sercu (Belgium) and G. Frank (Denmark), 192, one lap behind; 3, G. Schumacher and U. Hempel (West Germany), 167; 4, W. Peffgen and A. Fritz (West Germany), 157; 5, D. Clark and D Allan (Australia), 130.

Tennis

DENVER: Men's grand prix tournament: First round: B. Walts beat S. Denton, 7—6, 6—7, 7—6; B. Manson beat C. Mayotte, 7—6, 6—0; N. Saviano beat J. Hayes, 6—3, 3—6, 6—3; J. Austin beat J. Farrow, 6—1, 6—3; F. Taygan beat B. Mitton (South Africa), 6—4, 4—6, 6—3.

Golf

BRIDGEND: Schools championship, qualifying round: 1, Barry Boys' Comprehensive, 250; 2, Mitchurch High, 252; 3, Cardiff High, 253.

Ice hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Pittsburgh Penguins 5, Quebec Nordiques 4; Los Angeles Kings 1, Toronto Maple Leafs 0.

JACA, Spain: World University Winter Games Final: Canada 6, Finland 1. Third place match: Japan 9, Spain 3.

Snooker

MANCHESTER: Group one: D Mountjoy beat G. Miles, 3—0 (65—62, 85—61, 64—35); R. Reardon beat Miles, 3—0 (95—29, 86—34, 138—0); Reardon beat Taylor, 2—1 (74—36, 7—115, 89—27). Play-off: Taylor beat Mountjoy, 91—10.

Group two: T. Griffiths beat W. Werbeniuk (Canada), 3—0 (n—36, 91—43, 63—8); K. Stevens (Canada) beat Werbeniuk, 2—1 (91—15, 47—68, 88—8); M. Hallett beat Stevens, 2—1 (63—55, 48—66, 108—0).

Racing

Easterby kept in the dark over Little Owl

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

Saturday looks like being one of those days when it would be marvellous to be able to be in two places at the same time, because it is clear that visitors to Haydock Park and Newbury will both be served with a feast of good racing. However, with the help of television it should be possible to monitor happenings elsewhere because the times of the big races on both courses do not coincide.

The Timeform Steeplechase, the Greenall Whitley Brewery Steeplechase and the Victor Ludorum Hurdle are the races of significance at Haydock. Peter Easterby remarked not long ago that the first that he and his owner, Jim Wilson, knew about their Gold Cup hope, Little Owl, running in the Timeform Steeplechase was when they read it in the papers. Yet Little Owl was an acceptor at yesterday's four-day forfeit stage, so Easterby is clearly keeping all his options open.

So, too, is that other fine Yorkshire trainer, Michael Dickinson, who has left his promising novice Wayward Lad in both the Timeform Steeplechase and the Greenall Whitley. Dickinson has also taken the precaution of leaving Political Pop and Bregawn in the same two races.

Easterby has declared his other Gold Cup entry, Night Nurse, for the Greenall Whitley Brewery Steeplechase, stating that he will not risk him if the ground looks like being heavy at Haydock. To make matters more complicated there must be a chance that the weights for the race will rise by 17lb because Midnight Court has been left in only as a precaution against the weather. The intention is to run him at Newbury on the same afternoon.

Were Night Nurse and Midnight Court to drop out, Spartan Missile would head the handicap and it will be particularly interesting to see how this Grand National entry copes with the drops on the landing side of some of the fences at Haydock, because he will encounter similar drops at Liverpool. Being a formidable hunter he should be able to adapt easily.

The list of acceptors for the Victor Ludorum Hurdle, which is one of the most important races of the season for four-year-olds, includes Hopeful Shot who has twice had the misfortune to run up against the talented Broadsword this season. Broadsword's trainer, David Nicholson, has such a strong hand that he is able to choose whether to run Great Developer, Sir Gordon or both.

If Fred Winter runs Midnight Court in the Geoffrey Gilbey Memorial Handicap at Newbury, it would be another welcome opportunity to reassess the horse who has been plagued with leg trouble since he won the Gold Cup at Cheltenham in 1978. Midnight Court's most recent performance at Lingfield Park last month did not please everyone, although Winter himself was satisfied.

Midnight Court apart, the most interesting runner at Newbury on Saturday will be Easy Fella, who is one of 20 who have stood their ground for the Phillip Cornes Saddle of Gold final. Although this is a hurdle race, the series as a whole was designed to be a helpful part of the education of horses destined to become steeplechasers. And, if ever I saw a good steeplechaser in the making it is Easy Fella.

Kris, that admirable miler who retired to stud at the end of last season, recently covered his first mare on the Thornton-Le-Street Stud near Thirsk in Yorkshire. And by all accounts everything went well, which must be a relief not only to Lord Howard de Walden, who bred and raced him for three seasons and still retains a sizable interest in him, but also those other shareholders who paid £100,000 when he was syndicated.

STATE OF GOING (official): Wetherby: Heavy (no inspection planned). Worcester: Heavy (no inspection planned). Tomorrow: Lingfield Park: Heavy (inspection at 3.0 today). Ludlow: Soft (no inspection planned).

Another Captain in charge

Another Captain, the Northumbrian-trained Grand National runner, who is to be the subject of a Jockey Club inquiry, remains 50-1 for the Aintree race after winning at Kelso yesterday. Another Captain failed a dope test after success at Newcastle on November 14. A Jockey Club spokesman said: "Investigations by our security staff have only just been completed, and a date for the inquiry has yet to be arranged."

Another Captain's three-length victory in the King's Own Scottish borderers Cup was watched by his possible Aintree rider, Peter Scudamore, who had driven north with his father, Michael, after the abandonment of Plumpton.

Colin Hawkins rode Another Captain yesterday, and after keeping his mount towards the rear, improved before the final turn and produced a driving finish to beat What A Coup and Peaty Sands on the flat. "He will have one more run before Aintree and he'll go really well in the national providing the ground is soft," Andy Scott, his owner-trainer said.

Also watching the race was Harry Bell, who reports that Sebastian V is in fine form at home and will have one race before Aintree—at Kelso on March 25. Bell said: "Ridley Lamb is almost certain to ride Sebastian at Aintree."

John Leadbetter, who took Rubstic, the 1979 National winner and current joint-favourite out of Another Captain's race because of the heavy ground, said that his horse was very well and would only run again before April 4 if a suitable race could be found on good ground.

Tote help apprentices

Woodrow Wyatt, the Tote chairman, said yesterday that the Tote would donate £50,000 towards the £250,000 needed to start a new apprentice school. Under a charitable trust headed by Lord McAlpine, a school is being set up, and will get £250,000 from the Levy Board if it can raise the same sum from other sources.

Kelso results

2.15 (2.18) CRAILING HURDLE (Div I: novices: £468: 2m)

ARMIT WATER, b g by Coliseum—Sister Tabs (Mrs G. Dun), 10-10-11 .. Mr J. M. Dun (5-1) 1
Tocketts Mill, C. Tinkler (5-4 fav) 2
Tarchin .... M. Barnes (5-1) 3

TOTE: Win, 54p; places, 18p, 10p, 10. Dual F: 30p. CSF: £1.11. G. Dun, at Heriot. 15l, 1½l. Cool Sol (50-1) 4th. 9 ran. NR: Better Red, Tirps.

Worcester programme

2.0 FERRY HURDLE (Div I: Novices: £690: 2m)

2	00-000	Able Fellow, D. Hanley, 6-11-7	Mr W. Pearce
3		Arctic Fox, W. Mann, 5-11-7	G. McCourt
4	0	Bondor, L. Barratt, 5-11-7	R. Williams
6	u0	Buzuki, D. Roderick, 5-11-7	J. Williams
10	0	Dundrum Bay, O. O'Neill, 5-11-7	J. Suthern
14	p0pp-0	Grand Comedy, J. Bradley, 6-11-7	G. Davies
16	000-	Kamachow, P. Bridgell, 5-11-7	Mr C. Bridgell
17		Kilpeck, J. Vaughan, 7-11-7	M. O'Halloran
19	0	Man in the Middle, D. Sasse, 5-11-7	C. Brown
20		Messenger of Peace, R. Frost, 5-11-7	Mr J. Frost
22	4342	Miss Honeypenny, D. Weeden, 5-11-7	P. Scudamore
23	0244	Nimble Dove, G. H. Price, 5-11-7	Mr M. Low
25	00	Normandy Lad, W. Jenks, 5-11-7	R. Davies
29	000	Sea Bear, R. Dening, 5-11-7	J. King
32	00020	Wingetts, J. Edwards, 5-11-7	P. Warner
34		Billie Nacd, D. Elsworth, 4-10-8	R. Floyd
35	0p	Cape Mandy, T. Smith, 4-10-8	Mr P. Hobbs
39	000202	Kudu King, B. Cambidge, 4-10-8	Mr J. Cambidge
40	0u0	Lady Frampton, W. Charles, 4-10-8	M. Charles
43	0014	Ravens Tower, M. Pipe, 4-10-8	P. Leach
44	0	Tom's Tears, W. R. Williams, 4-10-8	Miss L. Vincent

3-1 Nimble Dove, 7-2 Miss Honeypenny, 4-1 Ravens Tower, 11-2 Man in the Middle, 8-1 Kudu King, 12-1 Wingetts, 14-1 Pulse Race, 16-1 Messenger of Peace, 20-1 others.

2.30 SIDBURY CHASE (Handicap: £1,019: 2m)

3.0 WYCHBOLD HURDLE (Selling Handicap: £549: 2½m)

3.30 MARK FIVE CHASE (Handicap: Amateurs: £1,343: 3m)

4.0 FORT ROYAL CHASE (Handicap: £1,400: 2½m)

4.30 FERRY HURDLE (Div II: Novices: £690: 2m)

Worcester selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
2.0 Kudu King. 2.30 Durham Town. 3.0 Broughty Pier. 3.30 Medoc. 4.0 DAWN FOX is specially recommended. 4.30 Just A River.

Wetherby programme

1.45 HAREWOOD HURDLE (4-y-o Novices: £690: 2m)

2.15 YORKSHIRE LAND-ROVER DISTRIBUTORS CHASE (Hunters: Amateurs: Qualifier: £392: 3m 100yd)

2.45 MICKLETHWAITE HURDLE (Handicap: £1,364: 3m)

3.15 SICKLINGHALL CHASE (Novices: £1,233: 2½m 100yd)

3.45 EAST KESWICK CHASE (Handicap: £1,553: 2m 50yd)

4.15 COWTHORPE HURDLE (Novices: £690: 2m)

Wetherby selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
1.45 Kitnasper Gal. 2.15 Checkio Ora. 2.45 Vendevar. 3.15 Lucky Row. 3.45 Why So. 4.15 Path of Peace.

Hockey

Army, Navy and RAF all the same to Civil Service

By Sydney Friskin

Army 0 Civil Service 3

The Civil Service hockey team made a clean sweep of their seasonal fixtures against the armed forces by defeating the Army on the shale pitch at the Officers Club, Aldershot, yesterday. The Army, like the Navy and the RAF, could not match the superior skills of the opposition.

If the Civil Service had been sharper at short corners—they had 10 in all, but converted only two—they would have won more handsomely, but the ball kept coming out rather slowly from the line to lessen the chances of a quick shot. The combined skills of Mayo, Stobbie, Sibia and Dargo tended to confine the Civil Service attacks to the middle. Whereas Ellis on the right wing had a fair share of passes from Mayo, Barrow was neglected on the other wing.

The Army were under pressure for long periods, but came out of their defensive skirmishes pretty well. Stott gave a distinguished performance at left back, and Moss, in goal, made a number of smart saves. At forward play, some lively runs by Jennings at centre forward and by Lunt at outside left might have been productive with more support.

It was Jennings who, late in the first half, earned the Army their only short corner, from which Wilson saved off Jenner. The shot in any case was ruled out for being too high.

A neat hand stop by Giles was sufficient inducement for Sibia to score the first goal from a short corner in the 29th minute. A stick stop by Sibia and a quick pass to Marson led to the second goal in the ninth minute of the second half. Nine minutes later, Ellis put the finishing touch to the combined efforts of Marson and Sibia. The Army's best chance was lost when Lunt failed from a difficult angle.

ARMY: Capt F. G. Moss (Staffordshire R.); Staff Sgt D. P. Rutherford (RAPC); Lt-Col W. Stott (RE), Capt C. C. N. Jarrett-Kerr (RE) (captain), Major H. D. Jenner (Cheshire R.), 2nd Lt P. Leighton (Green Howards), Capt. K. A. Boulter (RAEC), 2nd Lt C. Wood (RE), Pte I. P. Jennings (Parachute R.), 2nd Lt A. Scopes (RA), 2nd Lt N. Lunt (16/5 Lancers).

CIVIL SERVICE: M. Wilson; C. Basey, P. Giles, K. Dargo, H. Sibia, P. King, P. Ellis, A. Mayo (captain), D. Marson (sub, L. Gatfield), A. Stobbie, C. Barrow.

Umpires: C. Brine (Southern Counties) and C. Kemp (Combined Services).

NATIONAL CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP: Semi-final round draw: Southgate or St Albans v Olton and West Warwickshire; Gloucester City or Neston v Slough.

Equestrianism

Americans will be threat at Shelswell

Captain Mark Phillips will take part in two horse trials, the first of the new season, between March 13 and 15. First he goes to Crookham, where the popular and traditional opening to the season will be staged at Tweseldown race course, near Aldershot.

Captain Phillips may compete only on the opening day there with two novices, Blizzard II—formerly ridden by Princess Anne—and Ben Kilbreck, before meeting far more formidable opposition at Shelswell, Buckinghamshire, on March 14 and 15 where British selectors will be taking their first look at horse and rider combinations before picking teams for the Badminton trials and the European championships in Denmark.

Captain Phillips is expected to take four horses to Shelswell, including his main Badminton hope, Lincoln. Last year's Badminton winner, Mark Todd, will be there with Southern Comfort and Jocasta, and so too, will the European team silver medallists, Rachel Bayliss (Mystic Minstrel) and Clarissa Strachan (Merry Sovereign).

Lucinda Prior-Palmer, with Killaire, will be adding her usual stern challenge, but the biggest threat to all the noted British riders is expected to come from the two Americans, Bruce Davidson and Bea Perkins, who was fourth at Burghley last September and a little unlucky not to be in the first three.

Bloodstock sales

Chumson fails to reach his reserve at Ascot

Three horses entered in the Grand National came up for auction at Ascot Sales yesteday, but only one of them found a new home. The New Zealand-bred Chumson was expected to top the sale, but failed to attract a single bid at his reserve price of 15,000 guineas.

Fred Winter, Chumson's trainer, said afterwards: "I can't understand why people did not bid for him. He has been well advertised, and that is the price they would have to pay for this sort of horse". Winter will continue to handle the 10-year-old, who has lost 12lb at Aintree, but he said: "He will not run in the National if the ground is soft".

Jimmy Miff, who has won 11 races, fetched the top price of the day at 8,000 guineas. He was sold to a cash purchaser and will return to Ian Wardle's Somerset stable to be trained for the Midlands Grand National. "He won this race two years ago. The nine-year-old could also go for the Scottish National, but will not run at Liverpool", Wardle said.

The third National entrant, Doubly Royal, made 6,200 guineas to the bid of Tim Forster, who trained last year's Aintree hero, Ben Nevis. She was bought as a prospective brood mare, and will not race again. Forster said: "She was bought for one of my owners. As she has such a good jumping pedigree the plan is to try and get her in foal this spring", Doubly Royal won five races for David Gandolfo and was second in last year's Topham Trophy.

Orient benefit date

Orient are to play Arsenal at Brisbane Road on March 17 (8.00) in a benefit match for Mrs Vilma Angell, the widow of their former assistant manager, Peter. Mr Angell collapsed and died during a pre-season training run in 1979.

Northants in the black

Northamptonshire County Cricket Club yesterday disclosed a profit of £9,500 last season, even though their expenditure rose from £180,000 in 1979 to £220,000. The county's balance sheet shows the success of staging the three-day match against the West Indians in Milton Keynes.

McNamee out of Cup

Lyons, March 3.—Paul McNamee will miss Australia's Davis Cup first-round match against France this weekend. McNamee has injured his back and will be replaced by Mark Edmondson, Neale Fraser, the captain said.—Reuter.

Move for Villeneuve

Milan, March 3.—Jacques Villeneuve, the younger brother of Canadian formula one driver, Gilles, has given up a contract with the Italian Alfa Romeo racing team to drive an Alfa-March racer in the European formula three championships.—AP.

Latest European snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Piste	Conditions Off piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm)	°C
Andermatt	140	350	Good	Varied	Good	Snow	2
Slopes snow excellent							
Courmayeur	80	280	Good	Powder	Open	Fine	1
Excellent skiing everywhere							
Grindelwald	70	180	Good	Powder	—	Snow	-5
New snow on good base							
Isola 2000	35	70	Fair	Fair	Fair	Sun	1
Heavy snowfall yesterday							
Kitzbühel	70	195	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	1
Excellent skiing everywhere							
La Plagne	180	370	Good	Powder	Good	Cloud	-1
Very good skiing							
Mürren	140	400	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	-2
Good skiing but bad visibility							
St. Anton	180	450	Good	Good	Good	Cloud	2
Starting to snow							
Tignes	155	245	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	-1
New snow on hard base							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following reports have been received from other sources:

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
GERMANY					
Berchtesgaden	50	120	Old sn	—	0
Garmisch	60	60	Old sn	—	0
Hindelang	35	140	Old sn	—	0
Kleinwalsertal	120	290	Old sn	—	-2
Mittenwald	45	110	Old sn	—	-2
Oberammergau	54	120	Old sn	—	0
Oberstaufen	90	110	Old sn	—	1
Oberstdorf	100	190	Old sn	—	-2

Football

Bulgarians may not be inhibited even at home of champions

By Norman Fox
Football Correspondent

West meets east in today's European Cup and Cup Winners' Cup ties and in the mellow regions towards the south of France there is no cause for Ipswich Town to feel any less threatened than the rest as they meet St Etienne in the Uefa Cup. The first legs of the quarter-final round are severe tests for all four surviving British clubs.

The European Cup, senior of the three competitions, is clearly defined, a matching of four eastern clubs with four from the west, with domestic interest resting upon Liverpool. There will be much interest in the events at Munich where Bayern play Banik Ostrava, of Czechoslovakia, with a chance of confirming themselves as favourites. Liverpool's opposition is Bulgarian, CSKA Sofia, the team who set off so purposefully by knocking out Nottingham Forest 2—0 on aggregate in the first round.

Four months have gone since teams in the European Cup and Cup Winners' Cup were last involved in the continental competitions and for some there have been difficulties, not least for Liverpool whose ill-luck with injuries has left them off course in the league (but it may have turned). Real Madrid, faced with an arduous tie against Spartak, not in Moscow but the more temperate Tbilisi, have also slipped in their home league, and Internazionale, of Milan, who play Red Star Belgrade, lost top place in the Italian League last weekend.

Liverpool cannot be underestimated despite their own version of a mid-winter break. Although Dalglish's quick partner, Johnson, has a leg strain and cannot play, the manager, Bob Paisley, was optimistic yesterday. He said: "I have a few options open and I might throw a surprise at them." Case, Rush and Heighway are also waiting to hear the surprise. One or more will play.

Mr Paisley added: "We must win at Anfield but I hope the crowd will be prepared to back our patient approach." His fear of not taking a lead to Sofia was based on CSKA's European record of one home defeat which was as long ago as 1973 by Ajax.

At their best Liverpool would not have doubts about removing a team of CSKA's standard from their path but after a poor run of results, ending as recently as Saturday with a 2—0 defeat of Southampton, no sudden complete rejuvenation of spirit can be expected. The team will have to reach into their reserves of experience and hope that it will be enough to take them nearer to keeping the European Cup in England for a fifth successive season and return it to their own shelves for the third time.

CSKA (the Central Sports Club of the Army) are the most surprising European Cup survivors of the eight, having beaten Szombierski Bytom (Poland) and Forest without conceding a goal. What is more they know that tonight the pressure is on Liverpool to obtain at least a two-goal lead. Anything less would leave the champions in danger for, as Forest discovered earlier in the season, the Bulgarians are a lively attacking team, even on foreign soil.

In Nottingham, CSKA began with a single goal lead and, spurred by Djevizov, who caused distress in the Forest defence, they increased this through Kerimov's splendid breakaway and shot. Liverpool will be grateful that Hansen and Thompson are returned to the defence.

For most eastern Europeans, lack of match practice is a problem and for Dynamo Tbilisi there is the added problem of a long journey followed by a Cup Winners' Cup match on a ground vastly different to their home stadium where 80,000 people regularly attend. Tonight at West Ham they will do well to keep the score low enough to recover in Georgia, where last season Liverpool lost 3—0.

This season Waterford and Kastoria (Greece) have lost in Tbilisi and discovered that Dynamo's football is more original than the traditional style of teams from the Soviet Union. Kipiani has the ability to compete with Brooking for the best organizing ideas and the breakaways he inspires may cause the West Ham defence some concern.

Although he has not played a full match since the F A Cup final last May, Pearson may appear for West Ham as a substitute. He has been suffering from a serious knee injury. Martin plays despite stitches in a head wound.

Waterford's manager, Tommy Jackson, has told the West Ham manager, John Lyall, that Tbilisi are slightly weak on their right side, so, if that proves the case, Devonshire could be the match winner with his speed and control. No doubt Tbilisi will mark Cross and Goddard, the leading goalscorers, closely but they may find the skill of Brooking and Devonshire combined too difficult to stifle. Mr Lyall said: "We have plenty of experience of big games from our cup runs in the last two seasons, so we are quite confident. Even the younger players know how to handle the big occasions."

After beating Roma and Valencia, the east Germans, Carl Zeiss Jena, are confident of a home victory over Newport County, the defiant third division Welsh representatives in the Cup Winners' Cup. Newport's journey so far has brought them aggregate wins of 4—0 and 6—0 over Crusaders and Haugar (Norway). Today's game is likely to be a different affair.

Carl Zeiss are another team descending in domestic competition, having gone from top to fourth, and they have lost their leading forward, Weise. However, they still have five internations.



Billy Bonds: West Ham's captain is intent on adding to the problems of Dynamo Tbilisi.

Ipswich may sample watered wine

From Clive White
St Etienne, March 3

The growing pains of Ipswich Town must finally subside here tomorrow when they step out on to the muddy battlefield that is the home of St Etienne, leaders of the French resurgence. They must free themselves of those years of failed promise and disappointment, so necessary to a developing team, and establish Ipswich as a force on the European map.

What better place to mature than in the Rhône region. Connoisseurs across Europe will be expecting this Uefa Cup quarter-final to be as free-flowing and full-bodied as the wine, though it might be a little watered down if the rain persists. Even the match could be in jeopardy.

If Ipswich are to partake of this movable feast, they must first be old enough to sit at the table. "Their baby-mindedness, I feel, is now a thing of the past", Bobby Robson, their manager, said today. "You've got to have a few disasters along the way."

Ipswich have had their share, twice losing three-goal leads in European competition. They do not travel well. Even this season in the Uefa Cup they have lost every away leg; St Etienne have yet to concede a goal.

A better blend and balance has now been achieved, but Burley will be sorely missed. The Dutchmen, Muhren and Thijssen, have given them the kind of credibility and respect that was once the prerogative of only Liverpool and England. But tomorrow, the Dutch may not be the masters of midfield, where there will be a match within a match.

Michel Platini v John Wark may sound like a mismatch to many, but the cold-eyed Scot can be as mean as he is plentiful near goal. There was mighty relief when his hamstring strain stood up to the test this evening. It seems queer, if not novel strategy to mark France's leading marksman with England's, but then the young Glaswegian began life in the back four.

Victory here for Ipswich would by no means make the overall one certain, not with men like the giant, Larios and the more withdrawn, Janvion, a player's player, operating in the same territory. Mr Robson appeared today to overlook the special talent of the most experienced player on the field—Rep, of Dutch national and Ajax fame.

Muhren, his old colleague at Ajax, says he is a deceptively lazy player who, at 29, can still turn a game on its head with a burst of brilliance as he did in the world club championship of 1972 and in the European cup final of the following year. The fact that Rep is itching to figure in the rebirth of the national side and that he will be marked by the big, ambling Butcher, doing a cover job for the smarter Burley, makes it a touchy situation for Ipswich.

But there is a perky optimism among the Ipswich players, who can consider only victory while Mr Robson more realistically prays for a 2—1 defeat. He admits that two clear goals could be too much to pull back at Portman Road against a side he considers one of the best he has seen in the last 10 years. The compliment was reciprocated even more strongly by Pierre Garonnaire, the assistant manager of St Etienne, who described Ipswich, after watching them for the fourth time this season at Coventry on Saturday, as the most brilliant club side he had seen since the days of Ajax.

ST ETIENNE: J. Castaneda; P. Battiston, J.-L. Zanon, B. Gardon, C. Lopez, G. Janvion, J. Rep, J.-F. Larios, L. Roussey, M. Platini, L. Paganelli.

IPSWICH TOWN: P. Cooper; M. Mills, T. Butcher, F. Thijssen, R. Osman, K. Beattie, J. Wark, A. Muhren, P. Mariner, A. Brazil, E. Gates.

Iran quit World Cup

Tehran, March 3.—Iran have decided to withdraw from the World Cup, according to Pars, the Iranian news agency. The agency says the decision was made because of the attitude of Kuwait, who are in Iran's qualifying group, towards the Iranian revolution

Forest's spirit of adventure revived by two young men

By Gerald Richmond

Nottingham F 1 Middlesbrough 0

Middlesbrough's resilient defence frustrated Nottingham Forest until eight minutes from the end of last night's match at the City Ground. Then Burns scored a goal which gave Forest victory, took them into fourth position and provided evidence of an unusually quiet revolution which is in progress.

The return of Francis, remarkably sharp after recovering from an Achilles tendon operation, has coincided with the emergence of Colin Walsh and Stuart Gray in midfield. During their two successful seasons in the European Cup, Forest had become patient to the point of being dour, a method which brought them success in two finals. Now these two young men are reviving the spirit of adventure which took Forest to the League championship three years ago.

Middlesbrough, although seriously weakened by injuries, made them work extremely hard, their tight and disciplined defence constantly blocking shots and making Forest hurry. Both teams have FA Cup ties on Saturday, Forest against Ipswich Town and Middlesbrough at home to Wolverhampton Wanderers, but there was no suggestion that either team was reserving energy for the sixth round.

There was no reward for Forest's inventiveness in the first half and, even though some of their movement was breathtaking, by far the best chance of the game fell to Middlesbrough. Armstrong, put clean through with more than a hint of offside, played a square pass to Jankovic who, in turn, rolled the ball to Hedley. The situation cried out for somebody to take responsibility but by the time Hedley did so, Shilton was almost on top of him and beat away the shot.

Robertson, one of only four members of the 1977-78 championship side on view last night, remains the key figure in Forest's pattern, always available out on the left with the ball control which provoked Craggs into an unwise trip, earning him a caution.

Most of Middlesbrough's absentees should be fit by Saturday but even a lack of experience did not lead the side to lose concentration. Forest appear to be missing one vital ingredient in attack for, hard though Wallace worked with his back to goal, the final thrust was absent. Nattrass and Angus contained Forest magnificently and it became more and more likely that a point would return to the north east.

Then Ponte, replacing Mills, took a throw on the right. Burns headed it on and Wallace held the ball long enought to release Burns who had time to steady himself before placing his shot wide of Platt. Even then Middlesbrough found time to reply, Shilton going down hurriedly to a shot from Nattrass and seeing a header from Angus, cautioned earlier for a foul on Francis, loop over the bar.

NOTTINGHAM FOREST: P. Shilton; V. Anderson, F. Gray, S. Gray, K. Burns, B. Gunn, G. Mills (sub, R. Ponte), I. Wallace, T. Francis, C. Walsh, J. Robertson.

MIDDLESBROUGH: J. Platt; J. Craggs, I. Bailey, G. Hedley, M. Angus, I. Nattrass, C. Blackburn, M. Proctor, D. Shearer, B. Jankovic (sub, G. McDonald), D. Armstrong.

Referee: D. W. Lloyd (Fernhill Heath).

Blackpool appoint Brown to take over from Ball

Alan Ball resigned yesterday as player-manager of Blackpool and was replaced as manager by Allan Brown. Mr Brown once took the club to within one point of promotion to the first division but he now faces a hard task to save them from relegation to the fourth. Ball, who will be 36 next month, signed a letter of resignation "at the invitation of the board", who met on Monday night.

Blackpool have won only one of their last 14 games and are second from bottom of the third division, five points short of safety with 12 games left. Ball, who signed a three-year contract 12 months ago, was "expecting" the move, which came only a week after his father, Allan Ball senior, had been appointed consultant to the club; but he said: "I'm disappointed that I have not been allowed to finish the job I started.

"When I came here, there was a huge gap in the scouting system, which meant the players were not up to progressing into the first team. I let 21 players go—and now the club, below first team level, is alive and thriving. We have some sparkling youngsters at the club."

Ball joined Blackpool from Southampton, via the North American League club Vancouver Whitecaps, with whom he spent last summer. It was his second period with Blackpool, the first having ended in August 1966—a month after he helped England to win the World Cup—when he joined Everton for £110,000. Ball later signed for Arsenal, who paid a then British record fee of £225,000 for him in 1972.

Mr Brown also played for Blackpool, in the fifties, and became manager in 1976. He was dismissed two years later, after an argument with the chairman and the club's fortunes subsequently foundered. They won only one of 15 games under Jimmy Meadows and were relegated to the third division, after Meadows came Bob Stokoe, Stan Ternent and Ball.

Bryan ("Pop" Robson), Sunderland's much-travelled forward, has joined Carlisle United as a player with coaching responsibilities. Bob Stokoe, the Carlisle manager, who signed and sold Robson in deals with West Ham United when he managed Sunderland, said: "Pop's arrival will be a boosotst for the rest of the forwards and the team as a whole."

Larry Lloyd, aged 32, the Nottingham Forest and England defender, is to take over as player-manager of fourth division Wigan Athletic today in place of Ian McNeill, who was dismissed last month. Lloyd, who made 150 apearances for Liverpool before his £250,000 move to Coventry in 1974, will be introduced to the club's players by the chairman, Fred Pye, after signing a four-year contract.

O'Keefe, the Everton forward, was banned by FIFA from winning further Republic of Ireland caps yesterday. FIFA confirmed that O'Keefe had appeared for England in a non-league professional tournament in 1979. But O'Keefe's Everton colleague, McDonagh, a goalkeeper, who also made his first appearance for the Republic in the match against Wales in Dublin last week, has been told he can continue playing for the Republic, although he played for England at youth level.

Macrae may join trail to America

Manchester City have accepted an offer of £60,000 from an American club, Portland Timbers, for their reserve team goalkeeper Keith Macrae who is thinking over the move. He will give the Americans his answer today. Portland, who are coached by Jimmy Conway, a former City forward, bought Willie Donachie and Stuart Lee from Maine Road last season for a combined fee of £250,000.

Frank Burrows, the Portsmouth manager, met Hull City's central defender Stuart Croft yesterday to talk over a possible transfer. Croft, aged 26, who has made nearly 200 appearances for Hull, recently turned down a move to Halifax Town. He has been at Boothferry Park for 10 years, but has played only 11 matches this season.

Peter Daniel, the Wolverhampton Wanderers midfield player, suffered cartilage damage in addition to breaking a leg against Aston Villa at Molineux on Saturday. The damage was revealed yesterday at the West Bromwich Hospital, where he had an operation for a depressed fracture below the right knee.

Wolves' assistant manager, Richie Barker, said: "The trouble is worse than we feared. The cartilage was torn away, so the surgeon found it necessary to remove it in addition to placing a pin in the bone. Peter has been told he cannot put any weight on the leg for three months, which means his return will be a great deal longer than we anticipated."

Denis Smith, the Stoke City defender, yesterday accepted that his first division career is over after suffering the eighteenth fracture of his career. An X-ray examination confirmed that Smith had broken an arm for the second time this season in a Central League game at Manchester City on Saturday. He said: "This has to be the end for me as a First Division player. Now I've got to look elsewhere and back myself to reach the top in some other area of the game."

Waddock, of Queen's Park Rangers, was suspended for two games yesterday by a Football Association disciplinary committee. Waddock, an Irish international, will miss Rangers' home match with Blackburn Rovers and an away game at Orient after passing 20 penalty points.

Yesterday's results

First division

Nottm F (0) 1 Middlesbro (0) 0
Burns
17,690

Fourth division

Port Vale (2) 2 Scunthorpe (0) 2
Miller, Partridge (pen),
M. Chamberlain Cammock 2,277
Tranmere (0) 0 Lincoln (0) 0
1,538

ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Barnet 1, Stafford Rangers 1.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland division: Bridgend 2, Merthyr Tydfil 1; Stourbridge 1, Barry Town 1. Southern division: Ashford v Dartford postponed; Bognor Regis v Crawley Town postponed. Canterbury 1, Basingstoke 1; Gosport 1, Dorchester 3; Hastings v Hillingdon postponed; Margate 2, Chelmsford 3.

SURREY SENIOR CUP: Second round replay: Epsom and Ewell v Walton and Hersham postponed.

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Carshalton Athletic 2, Hitchin Town 1; Walthamstow Avenue v Croydon postponed. First division: Finchley v St Albans City postponed; Hampton v Tilbury postponed. Cup: Fourth round replay: Tooting and Mitcham v Bishop's Stortford postponed.

ATHENIAN LEAGUE: Harefield United 5, Chertsey Town 0.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Morecambe 1, Mossley 3; Netherfield 3, Witton Albion 3. Cup: Third round: Buxton 0, Marine 2.

RUGBY UNION: Bristol 23, The Army 6.

RUGBY LEAGUE: First division: Hull KR 20, Halifax 14.

Today's fixtures

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated.

EUROPEAN CUP: Quarter-finals, first leg: Bayern Munich v Banik Ostrava (7.0); Spartak Moscow v Real Madrid; Liverpool v CSKA Sofia; Inter Milan v Red Star Belgrade.

EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS' CUP: Quarter-finals, first leg: West Ham United v Dinamo Tbilisi; Fortuna Düsseldorf v Benfica (7.0); Slavia Sofia v Feyenoord Rotterdam; Carl Zeiss Jena v Newport (4.0).

UEFA CUP: Quarter-finals, first leg: Grasshoppers Zurich v Sochaux; Standard Liège v Cologne; St Etienne v Ipswich Town; AZ 67 Alkmaar v Lokeren (7.15).

SECOND DIVISION: Cardiff v Sheffield Wednesday.

THIRD DIVISION: Blackpool v Millwall.

FOURTH DIVISION: Bradford City v Southend; Peterborough v Wimbledon.

SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION: St Mirren v Airdrie.

SCOTTISH FIRST DIVISION: Dunfermline v Falkirk; Hamilton v Ayr United.

SCOTTISH SECOND DIVISION: Alloa v Queen of the South; Arbroath v Cowdenbeath; Clyde v Queens Park.

FA YOUTH CUP: Quarter-final: Manchester City v Birmingham City.

WELSH CUP: Fifth round replay: Hereford v Shrewsbury.

ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Kettering v Scarborough.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland division: Alvechurch v Taunton; Enderby v Witney Town.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Gateshead v Southport; Grantham v Goole.

Rugby Union

UAU CHAMPIONSHIP: Final: Durham v Loughborough (at Wasps, 3.0).

COUNTY MATCHES: Essex v Norfolk (at Colchester, 2.30); Lincolnshire v East Yorkshire (at Market Rasen, 2.45).

REPRESENTATIVE MATCHES: Middlesex XXX Club v Middlesex County Clubs (at Centaurs, 4.0).

CLUB MATCHES: Cambridge University LX Club v Birmingham University; Lloyds Bank v Standard Bank; RR of Wales v University of Surrey.

Rugby League

CHALLENGE CUP: Second round. Dewsbury v Warrington.

Hockey

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Army Under-21 v Nordics (at Aldershot, 2.30).

LONDON LEAGUE: Hawks v Oxford University (4.15); London University v Cheam (4.15).

OTHER MATCHES: Cambridge City v Cambridge University (2.30); Southampton University v Reading (2.30).

WOMEN'S TOURNAMENT: WRAF Station Cup finals (at Vine Lane, Uxbridge).

Rugby Union

Continuing our occasional series on great teams with the London Welsh in days of Dawes

A dozen caps and a hatful of tries

Shortly after the turn of the century, London Welsh were in the agreeable position of being able to call on 11 international rugby players, including legendary figures such as Willie Llewellyn and Teddy Morgan. They had a character called Wallace H. Watts, previously an international with Newport, whose senior club career stretched from 1890 to 1911. In 1905-06, when scoring vaules were lower and fewer games were played, "Hop" Maddocks contributed prolifically to a season's total of over 400 points which included only one penalty goal.

By the end of the 1920s the club was enjoying another prosperous era with Harry Bowcott and "Wick" Powell at half back, and an enduring prop forward, W. A. V. ("Wavy") Thomas who still holds the record of over 300 appearances for the club. The exact number will be revealed when Paul Beken has completed his researches for a history which will be published to coincide with the club's centenary in 1985.

That history, doubtless, will have ample space to reflect what is generally regarded as being the finest Welsh period of all, beginning in the mid-1960s, when John Dawes became coach as well as captain, and lasting well into the next decade. Between 1967, when they lost to Blackheath in March, and September, 1971, when they went down with a much depleted side against Metropolitan Police, they preserved an unbeaten home record against English clubs. Having lost at Bridgend in October, 1970, the Welsh won 13 of their next 15 fixtures in Wales.

In 1970-71 there was a sequence of 18 wins. A crowd of 10,000 had Old Deer Park's facilities bursting at the seams for the visit of Cardiff in 1971. Over the period the Welsh won roughly three times as many matches as they lost. In 1971 Dawes had six fellow London Welshmen—J. P. R. Williams, Gerald Davies, Mervyn Davies, John Taylor, Geoff Evans and Mike Roberts—in his Lions team which made history as well as putting British rugby on top of the world by winning the series in New Zealand.

About this time, too, Tony Gray, Billy Hullin, Ian Jones, Jim Shanklin, Keith Hughes and Jeff Young were internationals playing for the club.

Dawes regards the season which followed the 1971 Lions tour as being, perhaps, the best of all although all their Lions players took things easy before Christmas. By then Dawes had retired from international football and, Gray, a flanker, had taken over the club captaincy. None of their Lions was available when London Welsh won the first of three successive victories in the Middlesex sevens of 1971.

In the early 1960s at Old Deer Park, a belief still existed that big forwards had to be good ones; but by the time Dawes was installed as captain and coach the Welsh were playing George Patterson and Brian Evans, a pair of locks, who weighed not much more than 26 stones between them, and the emphasis had shifted to mobility, fitness and flexibility. In those days, before the new dispensation law was introduced, the club still tended to find themselves shut out of a game by opponents with stronger forwards working the touchline. So to a large extent, they lived off their wits. They also brought to a pitch of near-perfection the involvement of a running full-back, Gareth James, who was at scrum half when London Welsh won the Middlesex sevens in 1968.

"Gareth did not have the special rocklike qualities of JPR Williams", Dawes reflects. "But in some ways he was a more exciting and unorthodox player, he fitted perfectly into our pattern. We had Tony Gray, by t[…] on one flank. John Taylor […] coming in on the other. It […] not long before we began […] attract bigger men with the s[…] philosophy". In due co[…] Mervyn Davies, Geoffrey E[…] and Mike Roberts arrived, no[…] mention the one and only JPR.

Another (much smaller) addi[…] was Gerald Davies, arguably […] most devastating runner-in of […] modern era who scored m[…] thrilling tries—none perhaps m[…] remarkable than the five […] notched up one afternoon ag[…] Newport, each of them illustra[…] a different facet of the wing th[…] quarter's art.

It was not long before the W[…] had the resources to play it t[…] if required and to match op[…]nents up front while holdin[…] distinct edge elsewhere: "[…] opponents could not match […] when we let th eball do […] work", Dawes recalled. "[…] complicate things? The easiest […] must be best. The ball al[…] moves faster than the man."

Of those shining London W[…] days we remember less about […] playing record and much m[…] about the panache and origin[…] with which it was achieved. B[…] fancy that some extra facts a[…] two outstanding flankers […] stressing. In 285 games for […] club Taylor scored 91 tries. In […] appearances Gray topped the […] mark. "In soccer parlan[…]" Dawes says, "you could call t[…] strikers".

The London Welsh unde[…] team this season has recently […]duced a string of victories—47[…], 76—0 and 52—3—over Ros[…] Park, Esher and Bedford. A w[…] Cari Wynne, who is the A[…] under-21 400 metres hurdles ch[…]pion, scored seven tries aga[…] Esher. The club runs teams […] every age group from under […] to under 19 and, the flow […] players from Wales having all […] dried up, it looks now to […] thriving junior section for fu[…] recruitment. After some unha[…] experiences in Wales over […] Christmas, the senior XV has […]called some of the glories of […] years ago with a seven-try […] over Leicester and, last Saturd[…] a win at Neath. The club's cen[…]ary season could, therefore, […] said to be already bright […] promise.

Peter W[…]

Dawes: "The ball moves faster than the man".

Loughborough introduce Lytollis for UAU final

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

Today's Universities Athletic Union final between Loughborough and Durham has been switched at short notice from Twickenham to the Wasps ground at Sudbury. The national ground was saturated yesterday morning, and the Rugby Football Union, understandably, are concerned that it should remain in good order for the England-France international a fortnight on Saturday—not to mention the Royal Navy-Army match this weekend.

The Wasps had their pitch redrained and relaid some years ago and it is now as resilient as any in the land. When most clubs were swimming about last Saturday, Wasps beat Harlequins 26—20 in a London merit table game on a firm and well-grassed surface.

Loughborough, who have won the title 17 times, have made one change in their side as compared with that which took a conclusive grip of affairs to beat Swansea 13—6 in the semi-final round. Lytollis, from Morpeth, has been brought in on the left wing.

Durham, three times winners (on the last occasion in 1969), are fortified by the return of their captain and scrum half, Dewey, who was injured in the first minute of their match against Nottingham in the quarter-final round, and, as a result, missed the action when they beat Manchester 12—7 in the semi-final.

When I saw them in the last round, Loughborough struck me as being a typically well-balanced side, dedicated as ever to 15-man rugby, but perhaps with no outstanding flair behind the scrummage. If Loughborough start as slight favourites, Durham can point out, for what it is worth, that after they had won 21—3 at Newcastle in the earlier stages of the competition, Newcastle in the next round lost by only 7—11 at Loughborough.

Durham, indeed, had their troubles in the scrummage against Manchester, but were obliged to play a flanker at lock for almost all of the game. It did not stop their Bedford hooker, Johnson, from taking five strikes against the head. Their front row, with Henderson of Rosslyn Park and Surrey at tight head prop, commands much respect. Their lock, Lillington, is No 8 in the Scotland B side against France on Saturday.

The Loughborough flanker, Pegler, captained the 19-group side last season, and confirmed in the last round that he is a young player to watch.
young player to watch. The two teams last met in the finals of 1974 and 1975, Loughborough winning on both occasions, by 19—6 and 10—4.

LOUGHBOROUGH UNIVERSITY: A. Barnard; K. MacDonald, S. Grabham (captain), A. Thompson, R. Lytollis; M. Boyd, I. Wright; D. Davies, M. Duffelen, C. Collins, S. Hill, G. Stoke, D. Pegler, D. O'Callaghan, S. Bain.

DURHAM UNIVERSITY: L. Batten; H. Bevan, G. Gordon, G. Hulme, G. Halsey; N. Chesworth, P. Dewey (captain); C. Alcock, J. Johnson, S. Henderson, R. Smith, P. Lillington, B. Crawshaw, J. Ellison, J. Anderson.

Referee: R. Quittenton (London).

Army bogged down and forced to beat retreat

By Alan Gibson

Bristol 23 The Army 6

It was a bitterly cold evening and after the heavy rain of the last few days the pitch, even of the Memorial Ground which drains well (depositing most of the water upon Bristol Rovers down the hill), was rather like the semolina pudding that mother used to make.

Bristol were obviously the stronger side forward, whatever the condition. After five minutes they took the precaution of a lead, with a penalty by Gorvett. Then they felt free to dash about and take risks, and were rewarded with a try o nthe right, by Morley

However, the Army were fit and refused to be discouraged. Bristol became a little casual and suddenly A'Hearne was clear on the right, with so much room that he could put the ball down behind the posts ,for Lovegrove to convert.

Bristol, warned, now began to pay a little more respect to the problems presented by their opponents and the mud. They kept the Army near its line for a while, made a swift break left, and had three spare men, of whom Rees decided to score, Gorvett converting. Each side then missed a penalty kick, neither difficult, and it was 13—6 to Bristol at half-time.

Bristol were soon attacking again and Pomphrey, who is never happier than with the ball in his hands near the line, charged over from a ruck. Gorvett again made the conversion. Army still kept trying ambit[…] and intelligent movements, […] from their own half. Jackson […] their principal inspiration. It […] good stuff, but Bristol were […] to be caught out again.

nI the last quarter Gorvett […] to go off with a cut brow […] was replaced by MacFarl[…] Sorrell limped off and […] replaced by Watson. With Bri[…] thus disturbed, the Army put […] one or two more danger[…] attacks but could not sust[…] them, and it was Morley […] Bristol who had the last try.

BRISTOL: P. Cue; J. Lane, Morley (captain), A. Rees, [illegible] D. Sorrell (rep. J. Watson), R. Ha[…]ing; P. Stiff, J. Tasker, A. Sheppa[…] N. Garmond, N. Pomphrey, M. Raf[…] S. Gorvett (rep. A. MacFarlane), Bater.

THE ARMY: Sapper C. Snowde; K. A'Hearne, Cpl P. Lytollis, Sgt […] Jackson, Cpl H. Glenn, Cpl G. Lo[…]grove, S. I. C. Davies; Sgt T. T[…] Cpl H. Elkan, Gfn S. Titterinol, Major J. Bowles (captain), Capt Campbell-Lamerton, S. I. [illegible] Lt C. Richardson, Cpl C. Christorl[…]

Referee: P. Mayo (Bristol).

Wheeler optimistic

Peter Wheeler, the Engl[…] hooker, will be having treatm[…] this week on a shoulder inj[…] suffered in Monday night's tr[…]ing at Stourbridge but he […] optimistic that he will be fit […] face Ireland in Dublin on Sat[…]day. Wheeler went off twice d[…]ing the training evening, initia[…] because he aggravated the […] above the ear sustained during […] closing minutes of the Calcu[…] Cup game with Scotland […] February 21.

Tennis

Miss Navratilova makes the shots that count

Los Angeles, March 3.—Martina Navratilova, the highest seeded player in the tournament after the withdrawal of Tracy Austin, defeated the unseeded Kate Latham 6—4, 6—2 last night in a first round match that lasted 55 minutes. "I know I was a little rusty the whole match, but I hit the shots when I had to", she said.

Afterwards Miss Navratilova, a "veteran" aged 24, said she thought the present crop of young women players was probably the best the game has had. "I think Andrea Jaeger is better than I was at this age, and Tracy Austin is better than Chris Evert was at this age", she said.

Miss Austin, aged 18, who had been seeded No 1, withdrew yesterday after her back began troubling her again. Not due to play her first match until today, she practised for three hours on Sunday and the pinched nerve in her back became painful again. Miss Austin, who first hurt her back almost two months ago, has now missed five tournaments.

In other first round matches Glynis Coles, of Britain, was beaten 6—2, 6—3 by Beth Herr, but Miss Coles had another chance today because she was to take Miss Austin's place against Anne Kiyomura. Mareen Louie won her match because Susan Leo, of Australia, was forced to withdraw after injuring her left foot. Miss Leo had won her first set 6—4 and lost the second 7—5.

FIRST ROUND: B. Herr beat G. Coles (GB), 6—2, 6—3; S. Harrison beat K. Sands, 6—2, 3—6, 6—0; J. Harrington beat S. Margolin, 6—4, 5—7, 7—5; M. Louie beat S. Leo (Australia), 4—6, 7—5, ret; J. Russell beat P. Teeguarden, 1—6, 7—5, 6—1; M. Navratilova beat K. Latham, 6—4, 6—2; L. Allen beat M. Platek, 7—6, 1—6, 6—3.—AP.

A casual game of squash at Cumberland Club (Hampstead) last Sunday afternoon has proved a costly business for Denis Cassidy, sales director of British Home Stores. It led to a request to sponsor next month's Cumberland Club hard court tennis tournament—the traditional opening of the British season—and today Mr Cassidy announced that his company had agreed to back the event with £5,000 in prize money.

It is a first venture into tennis sponsorship for British Home Stores, who already have a £80,000 sponsorship commitment to aid women's rowing in Britain. Cumberland Club are to embark on a £200,000 facelift, including the installation of floodlights

Golf

No effort is spared to make Sandwich Open a success

By Peter Ryde

Early indications are that there will be no holding back this year from the Open championship which returns after 31 years to Sandwich, an area which has never been famous for attracting crowds.

The entries already received are not numerous but they are more than in previous years at this time, and quality is so good already that from the point of view of finding the winner, they might almost start the championship next week. In addition to Tom Watson (the holder), Nicklaus, Trevino, Crenshaw, the rejuvenated Miller, Pate and Floyd have already entered together with the best of the Europeans, Ballesteros, Lyle and Faldo.

Car parking space, usually about 9,000, has been increased to 12,000, and four roads leading into the championship area are considered to be adequate for the purpose. The question that still has to be answered is whether the public will turn up in their thousands, as is now expected of them, at this event.

One key factor may be the railways. The main area from which spectators are expected is London, and British Rail are planning two trains an hour from Charing Cross at the peak hours, with a "special" carrying 600 passengers which will leave about breakfast time.

Golflink are to run a special package trip for British Rail, and it will even be possible to book entry tickets for the championship at the mainline stations. A VIP train, carrying guests for the firms who have taken hospitality tents at the Open, has been sold out.

Last year's entry, at £35 a time, fell just short of 1,000. This year, touched by present indications, the number should exceed 1,000 and it would not surprise the secretary of the Royal and Ancient if it reached 1,100. With this in mind, a fourth final qualifying course, North Foreland, has been added to the other three. This is not to increase the number playing in the championship, which remains at 160, but to give more players a chance from such a large entry to qualify for the championship. With exemptions expected to number from 65 to 70, final qualifiers should be competing for about 90 places.

The department which has not grown this year in a £1m Open championship, is the tented village which is reckoned to have reached its maximum. That will be good news to many followers of the game, and it is also pleasing to find that the vast spread of canvas has been set to the right side of the links away from the playing area.

Hutchinson two strokes up

From Lewine Mair
Vale do Lobo, March 3

With a back nine which included four successive birdies, Bryon Hutchinson, the former captain of the PGA, today handed in a five under par 66 to take the lead at the end of the first day of the 54 holes Longshot pro-am here.

Second place is shared, on 68, by Christy O'Connor, Snr, and Peter Gill. O'Connor never fails to attract a faithful band of supporters and his followers could not have been more concerned about his exploits had he been competing in the Open. The atmosphere spread to his amateur partners and, no doubt desperate not to be accused of letting the great man down, they holed putts from all over the place to come in with a team score which, at 124, was six shots better than any other.

Gill is the man who, in the Portuguese Open held over Vale do Lobo 10 years ago, had a 69 on a day when the next best score—from Brian Huggett—was a 78.

Garry Logan, who has won three of Longshots' 1981 pro-ams and tied for gfirst place in another, is well placed on 69. When he arrived in Portugal on January 1 Logan was suffering from the twin pressures of having a £4,000 overdraft and a wedding date set for March 29. His string of successes, however, has earned him £5,300 and, for the first time since turning professional, Logan is confident that his game is in good enough shape to tackle the ETPD tour.

INDIVIDUAL SCORES: 66: B. Hutchinson (Moortown). 68: P. Gill (Knowle Park), C. O'Connor (Royal Dublin). 69: S. Fox (Silloth-on-Sea), E. Murray (Walton Heath), G. Logan (Seahouses), R. Emory (Kingsdown). 70: P. Darnell (Gloucester).

TEAM SCORES: 124: O'Connor; 130: P. Gill; 131: Logan; 132: Fox.

In brief

Collision course for skiers

Vienna, March 3.—Two Austri[…] downhill skiers, Franz Klamm[…] and Harti Weirather, are hopi[…] to take part in the Le Mans […] hours race in France starting […] June 13, informed sources sa[…] here today.

It was not known, howeve[…] whether the Austrian skiing fede[…]ation would allow their particip[…]tion as sponsorship could unde[…]mine their amateur status. Klar[…]mer is still a sporting hero in h[…] own country after his win in th[…] 1976 Innsbruck Olympics downhil[…] Weirather is currently equal fir[…] in the standings for this year […] downhill World Cup.—Agenc[…] France Presse.

Bevan keeps in touch

John Bevan, the Warringto[…] threequarter, needs four tries fo[…] a career total of 200 since turnin[…] professional in 1973. The forme[…] British Lion, Wales and Cardif[…] Rugby Union winger, first playe[…] for Castleford on September 2[…] 1973, scoring a try. Bevan's tota[…] of 196 touchdowns includes 23 i[…] representative matches for Grea[…] Britain, Wales, and Lancashire.

Ladder to success

Elbeo Limited, the Nottingham based manufacturers of ladies' hosiery, are sponsoring Linda Geeves the young British tennis prospect. The company have taken advice from the British Women's Tennis Association and believe that Miss Geeves is capable of international success and a Wightman Cup place.

Doctor under orders

Geraldine Barniville, the Dublin doctor and housewife who gave up international sport last year, has come out of retirement to represent Ireland in the European women's squash championships at Amsterdam from March 19-22. Dorothy Armstrong (Ulster) and Irene Hewitt (Ulster) complete the team.

Honourable gentlemen

MPs who want tickets for England's game against Scotland at Wembley in May, have been asked for written guarantees that they will not pass them on. The FA are determined that no tickets should find their way into the hands of Scottish supporters.

ANGLO-DANISH TRADE

Investment

Recession adversely affects foreign interest

The present recession in Denmark is reflected in the slump in investments. Investment in Danish industry in 1980 was 10 per cent less than in the previous year. Net investments in real terms was only about 40 per cent as high as in 1973-74.

According to Mr Torben Nielsen, chief economist of Privatbanken, one of Denmark's three main banks, investment is now at the same level as it was in 1968, and thus adversely affecting Denmark's production capacity. Figures recently released by the Government's statistical bureau indicating that the number of bankruptcies in Denmark rose from 289 in 1979 to 1,935 last year tell their own sad tale.

According to statistics from Nationalbanken, the Danish central bank, total direct foreign investments in Denmark amounted to 1,180m kroner in 1979, while direct Danish investments abroad were 879m kroner. These figures reveal a steady decrease of foreign investments in Denmark—which are now the same as they were in 1970 after reaching a peak in 1976 at 1,667m kroner—while Danish investments abroad are gradually increasing.

The most important single item in the 1979 figures for Danish investments overseas (about a third, or 260m kroner) was accounted for by the expansion of Danish banks overseas, where new foreign branches—notably in Luxembourg, London and New York—have been burgeoning in recent years. Foreign investment in Denmark, on the other hand, covers a wider range of activity, with the EEC topping the list (645m kroner, half of which came from West Germany alone), followed by Sweden (164m kroner) and the United States (125m kroner).

The EEC also dominates outward-going Danish investments (675m kroner, of which Britain's 328m kroner accounted for almost half). The United States (218m kroner) was the second most important foreign country Denmark invested in in 1979.

The most important direct foreign investments in Denmark in the coming years will be in North Sea oil and gas, and, because of the constraints of Danish economic policy, export-oriented companies will be an important target for indirect investment.

Legislation going through the Folketing (parliament), and due to be passed by the summer recess, will end the exclusive concession held by A. P. Moller, the Danish industrial and prospecting company, since 1962, opening 80 per cent of Denmark's offshore North Sea area to other prospectors. Although Moller, which exercises the concession through the so-called Danish Underground Consortium, in cooperation with Shell, Standard Oil and Texaco, will retain about 20 per cent of Denmark's North Sea business, there will be wide scope for new investment in the rest of the area (as well as in allied pipeline construction) from the beginning of next year.

According to the Ministry of Energy, about 20 companies—most of them foreign, and including: Mobil, which already has important interests and experience in the British and Norwegian North Sea sectors—have so far shown interest in the new concessions in the Danish area.

Although representing investment on a much smaller scale, regional development aid is available to Danish as well as to foreign enterprises through the Regional Development Board, based in Silkeborg, near Aarhus, Jutland. There are five designated regional development areas in Denmark: North, South and West Jutland in the west of the country, the Baltic islands of Lolland-Falster and Mon, and Bornholm in the east. In 1979 the Danish Regional Development Board granted aid, loans and guarantees worth 311m kroner to 155 companies, mainly in the iron, metal and machinery industries. Not since 1977-78 has the board aided a foreign investor. Regional development aid, in the form of low-interest, long-term loans of up to 50 per cent of capital expenditure, has otherwise largely been concentrated on light industries such as foods, furniture, textiles, glass and electronics.

Foreign demand for indirect investment, once heavy in Danish bonds, has in recent years shifted heavily to bourse-quoted shares. National bank figures show net equity sales to non-residents climbing to 326m kroner for the first nine months of last year—an increase of 35m kroner over the same period in 1979. Non-residents were first allowed to buy Danish shares when Denmark joined the EEC in 1973.

The increasing foreign interest in Danish shares comes mainly from large private and institutional investors in the United States, Switzerland and Britain. It has focused on a handful of internationally oriented Danish companies such as Novo, the industrial and pharmaceutical company, the leading shipping and industrial companies East Asiatic and A. P. Moller, F. L. Smidth (cement), United Breweries (Carlsberg and Tuborg), the Danish Spirit Factories (which produce Danish Aalborg Snaps and other liquor), the Danish Sugar Factories, Sophus Behrendsen (engineering and chemical products), Superfos (fertilizers) and some insurance companies. The marked increase in non-resident equity demand has been caused by well-managed marketing campaigns abroad by the most sought-after businesses.

Foreign investment moved over into shares after the Danish Government banned foreign purchases of state bonds in 1975. Non-resident demand did not subsequently switch to private sector debentures, probably because the Danish bond market differs markedly from its counterparts in other West European countries.

Christopher Follett



The Little Mermaid — a figurine by Royal Copenhagen Porcelain, one of Denmark's most important exporters.

Agriculture

Long, slim pig—fat market

The saying that everything on a Danish pig is canned except the grunt was valid for many years but these days a lot of various meat products have a smoked finish, are exported in refrigerated containers or are produced and packed for deep-frozen transport.

Denmark is the world's largest exporter of pig meat, and this group of products is its most important export, 47.2 per cent of which went to Britain in 1980. The value of pig meat exports in 1980 was 11,100m kroner. Seventy per cent of bacon imported to Britain is Danish and 40 per cent of all bacon consumed in Britain comes from Denmark.

Forty per cent of the total agricultural export goes to Britain and about 80 per of the bacon produced in Denmark is exported, England being the principal market, although pig meat products are sold to more than 140 countries throughout the world.

During 1980, 14,100,000 pigs were slaughtered in Denmark on 96,000 farms, which employ about 100,000 people. In addition, about 14,000 people are employed in bacon factories, canned meat factories, casing plants and lard refineries.

During the past 80 years the farmers have worked at breeding a pig which met with the consumers' taste. The result is the long, slim pig which is incessantly being improved through close cooperation between farms, bacon factories and research workers.

Forty per cent of the pigs received by export factories are cured for bacon but other cuts of the meat are exported as well, together with beef and veal, and are variously processed. The Danes realize the crucial importance of the British market and in 1977 the Danish Bacon Factories' Export Association, ESS-Food, which administers the export of bacon, set up its own organization in Britain, ESS-Food (United Kingdom), to coordinate British activities more closely.

Although pig meat is the most important item of agricultural export, beef and veal play an important role. The Danish Livestock and Meat Board says that the export of beef and veal to Britain during the first 11 months of 1980 had a value of 88.8m kroner. But it is not only meat that represents an important role among Denmark's agricultural exports. The dairy products are important as well.

The principal dairy items are butter, cheese and, lately, sour products such as yogurt and junket, which have been received favourably by the British consumers. On the subject of dairy exports to Britain, Mr Henning Mortensen of the Danish Dairy Federation says: "England is the biggest market for our products and during recent years there has been a remarkable increase in the export of cheese and, last year, of yogurt and junket.

"In 1980 the total dairy export was 5,500m kroner, of which exports to Britain counted for 1,330m kroner. The butter export was 946m kroner, cheese about 367m kroner, and tinned and condensed milk and milk powder, together with yogurt and junket, amounted to 17m kroner.

"We might have exported cheese, butter and milk preserves for another 1,000m kroner if we had had enough milk. But we have had to say no to orders from Britain as well as other countries because of shortage of milk. This is due to the economic situation in Denmark where the farmers do not invest because of the high level of interest and because of the 1979 law which levied an extra tax on the site value of farmland.

"In international circles, unfortunately, Denmark is used as an example of how a thriving agricultural sector can be ruined within a very short time. In 1976-77 the Government said that the animal production should increase by 3 per cent annually. But because of the 1979 law, at least within the dairy sector, production is at present falling by more than 3 per cent annually."

During 1980 Denmark's total export was 97,400m kroner which is an increase of 20 per cent compared to 1979. The total export to Britain during 1980 was about 27,500m kroner, compared with some 24,300m kroner in 1979 and agricultural exports to Britain during 1980 were about 6,700m kroner, compared to about 6,600m kroner the previous year.

Total Danish agricultural exports in 1980 were 25,500m kroner, an increase of 12 per cent compared to 1979. In one sector exports to Britain have fallen, and this is poultry, the reason being that the Danes have found better markets such as West Germany, Egypt and the Soviet Union. Poultry exports to Britain fell from 5,887 tons in 1979 to 1,431 tons in 1980.

Even though about 78 per cent of the country's area of roughly 43,000 square km is under cultivation, the number of people directly involved with agriculture has fallen since 1950, from 21 per cent to about 7 per cent of the population of 5,100,000.

It has been said that Denmark lacks natural resources but it has soil, apart from some lime, salt, lignite as well as gas and oil in the Danish sector of the North Sea. But soil is the raw material the Danes have cultivated diligently for centuries.

Danish farming is predominantly formed by fairly small family operated holdings. The 122,000 farms average in size 24 hectares (59 acres) and only every seventh farm has full-time paid employees.

Denmark and New Zealand are the only two countries in the world to export two thirds of their agricultural production and in Denmark this sector provides the country with about 32 per cent of the foreign currency earnings.

Annelise Hopson

Commerce

Partnership pattern has changed since entry into EEC

Denmark and Britain are traditionally good trading partners. Bilateral political relations—barring clashes of interest over agriculture and fisheries, both of which must be seen in the larger context of the European Community—are likewise generally positive.

According to British Department of Trade figures, trade between the two countries is at present almost in balance, with British exports to Denmark in 1980 amounting to £1,032m (compared with £1,016m in 1979) and Danish exports to the United Kingdom £1,104m for last year, marginally up on the total for 1979.

While Britain remains by far the biggest export market for Danish agricultural products, the trading pattern between the two countries has changed distinctly since they both entered the European Community in 1973. Whereas Britain was indisputably Denmark's biggest export market in the days of Efta, EEC membership has led to a dramatic blossoming in Danish trade with West Germany, which is now Denmark's top export market, with Britain second.

As regards industrial exports alone, Britain now lies third in importance. Seen from the British side, Denmark is no longer one of the top 10 export markets, having fallen to twelfth place.

On the other hand, the United Kingdom absorbs 15 per cent (and rising) of total Danish exports. Were the British suddenly to stop eating bacon and egg for breakfast, Denmark would be the first to suffer, as bacon, butter and cheese exports (£477m in 1980) account for almost half of total Danish exports to the United Kingdom.

At a total of £586.6m (representing a massive 20 per cent of total production) Danish agricultural products account for just over half (53 per cent), while industrial products at £354.6m (39 per cent) come in second place. Machinery (£143m) is the most important single Danish export to Britain after bacon and meat products, with shipping an increasingly important source of invisible earnings for Denmark.

Despite suffering from the high level of the pound, British exports to Denmark are generally healthy. Here petroleum and allied petroleum products are the highest individual item, amounting last year to £403.1m (£364.8m in 1979), well ahead of the second most important item, machinery, which has been losing ground. In recent years, however, British North Sea oil knowledge, including design of bore platforms and ancillary services, has boosted invisible exports to Denmark, which are still traditionally dominated by insurance.

The trade pattern has been consistent in recent years, with petroleum and associated activity propping up British exports to Denmark to the detriment of machinery (£162m), where an upward trend in exports has failed to materialize. So-called non-price factors, including goods delivery and packaging, are also to some extent behind the sluggishness of traditional British exports such as machine tools and manufactured goods to Denmark.

Despite its economic problems, Denmark, which enjoys a gdp per capita twice that of Britain, is a rich market for the United Kingdom and one that is confidently expected to expand in the coming years. Similarly the British recession has failed to daunt the Danes' expectation of increased exports.

C.F.

Danish exports to UK (£m)

	1979	1980	% change
Food and live animals	572.4	586.6	+ 2.5
including:			
meat	(370.4)	(368.7)	− 0.5
dairy products	(104.7)	(108.6)	+ 3.9
fish	(41.4)	(49.1)	+18.6
feeding stuffs for animals	(17.9)	(23.2)	+29.6
sugar	(16.9)	(18.0)	+ 6.5
Machinery and transport equipment	182.2	177.8	− 2.4
including:			
general industrial machinery	(55.5)	(50.8)	− 8.5
electrical machinery	(27.1)	(26.3)	− 2.9
specialized machinery	(26.5)	(25.9)	− 2.2
Manufactured goods	104.8	106.6	+ 1.7
including:			
textile yarns and fabrics	(31.1)	(31.0)	− 0.3
Chemicals and related products	50.7	49.4	− 2.6
Crude materials (except fuels)	42.5	44.4	+ 4.5
Petroleum	30.7	32.7	+ 6.5
All other goods	97.7	106.5	+ 9.0
Total	1,081.0	1,104.0	+ 2.1

Danish imports from UK (£m)

	1979	1980	% change
Petroleum	370.4	403.1	+ 8.8
Machinery and transport equipment	236.6	228.1	− 3.6
including:			
road vehicles	(56.6)	(40.0)	−29.3
specialized machinery	(56.6)	(34.8)	−38.5
general industrial machinery	(32.1)	(34.6)	+ 7.8
electrical machinery	(25.3)	(32.5)	+28.4
office and data processing machinery	(26.8)	(30.7)	+14.5
power generating machinery	(18.2)	(19.4)	+ 6.6
Manufactured goods	152.3	134.8	−11.5
including:			
textile yarns and fabrics	(43.7)	(36.0)	−17.6
iron and steel	(37.2)	(23.5)	−36.8
Chemicals and related products	83.5	86.9	+ 4.1
Food and live animals	26.1	30.3	+ 4.4
Clothing and accessories	29.6	22.8	−23.0
All other goods	117.5	126.0	+ 7.2
Total	1,016.0	1,032.0	+ 1.6

Source: Overseas trade statistics, UK.

Books for Lent

Leader of the loyal opposition

A Passion for Truth
Hans Kung: a biography
By Robert Nowell
(Collins, £9.95)

There are striking resemblances between Hans Kung and Karol Wojtyla. Both hail from devoutly Catholic rural communities, the one Swiss, the other Polish. Both are fair haired, broad faced, chunky, athletic men with a passion for physical fitness, keen swimmers, vigorous skiers. Both are exceptionally gifted linguists, intellectuals with wide cultural interests, and possessing an enviable knack of communicating their religious ideas to audiences of all descriptions. Both are writers and academics. But Wojtyla is now Pope, and Kung the leader of His Holiness's loyal opposition.

There is another resemblance which makes their relative positions in the Catholic firmament even more curious. It is the fact that each is deeply conscious of being a priest, called to preach the gospel to every creature. They are first and foremost pastoral men with a passionate desire to demonstrate how faith in God is the key to fullness of humanity, and to present the noblest possible vision of Christian life. Both set out with no greater ambition than to be simple parish priests, and were drawn almost accidentally on to a wider stage, the one as Pontiff, the other as the Church's most celebrated international theologian.

After reading this excellent study by Robert Nowell, himself an able theologian and former editor of the Catholic periodical *Herder Correspondence*, it seems not entirely fantastical to suggest that if the two men's birthplaces had been reversed so too might have been their present roles. It is not so much a biography as a theological boxing commentary with round by round descriptions of the dispute over his orthodoxy between Kung and the Sacred Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, culminating last year in the withdrawal of his licence as an accredited Catholic theologian. Kung's voluminous publications are brilliantly summarized, the controversial issues neatly analysed, and the climate of intellectual life within the Church both before and after the Second Vatican Council accurately depicted.

The Pope's experience as a churchman struggling to preserve religious faith and the institutional church in an atheistical authoritarian State clearly accounts for the stress he places on the conservative and hierarchical elements in Church doctrine and order. In contrast, Kung grew up in a country not only politically democratic but where bishops and priests are traditionally chosen by their people. His inherited respect for personal freedom and personal responsibility, and for the involvement of the whole community in decision-making, have been reinforced not only by the freer political atmosphere and intellectual atmosphere of western Europe, but by his experience of a church crippled less by outside oppression than its own internal weaknesses; surly suspicion of secular ideas and theological development, a divorce of doctrine from life, an image of frowning autocracy, and, not least, an incapacity to re-state the message of the gospel in fresh language and images intelligible to twentieth century man. To a great extent the Second Vatican Council confirmed this diagnosis, though it did not result in all the remedies he then proposed and still proposes.

Kung is a serious scholar, highly respected even by theologians who find themselves at odds with his views. He is also an effective populariser. It is the combination of scholarship with rare gifts of popular exposition which have made him an effective apologist capable of startling the apathetic into a fresh appreciation of the Christian vision, and a dangerous threat to those who believe he sails too close to the wind in his desire to re-formulate traditional statements of doctrine. The corpus of his work reveals consistent, systematic development. He builds steadily on previous work and returns again and again to the same themes: that the Church does not own God, but God the Church; that every development in Christian thought and practice must be tested against the scriptures and the tradition of the early Christian community; that the Church can err but that occasional errors do not detract from its essential indefectibility; that there is no sharp division between the life of nature and the life of grace; that every statement of doctrine and every practical expression of doctrine is culturally conditioned and therefore implies an element of relativity. Above all he has insisted that the Christian faith is robust enough to pursue the truth wherever it leads, and that to confess mistakes is better than to save face.

He has in addition taxed Roman officialdom with doctrinal immobilism, an obsession with institutional prestige, and habitual reduction of the great commandment to pettifogging, and sometimes cruel, legalism. These sharp attacks on the Roman bureaucracy may have more to do with the censure passed on him than any adventurous doctrine; unpalatable views are more easily tolerated by authorities, whether political or ecclesiastical, than cheek. But even those who are inspired by his work, and believe that his targets are well chosen, may sometimes wonder whether Kung does not unwittingly inflate the importance of Rome by harping on its defects. There is a much richer Catholic life than the Vatican represents. Rome has always blessed the tail-lights of theological movements, pastoral developments and spiritual quickenings which are already well down the road. There are a myriad delicate relationships between Catholics apart from the, rarely adverted to, relationship with Rome. And though intellectual integrity is a Christian duty, there are other kinds of experience, including the mystical, through which God tutors the faithful.

If the Catholic Church depended on a clean, well-lighted Rome it would long ago have crumbled to dust. As this book reveals, there is no doubting Kung's bravery, honesty and insight. But perhaps he chokes too easily on the sinfulness of Church officials, and under-estimates the commonsense of the ordinary Catholic whose faith he so frequently hymns. After all he himself is living proof that the faithful can recognize the merit in good works, whether or not they carry a *Nihil Obstat*.

John Harriott



"Grande Pitié by Jean Malouel from **Monasteries of Western Europe** by Wolfgang Braunfels (Thames & Hudson, £7.50).

The old religion

Christian England
Its Story to the Reformation
By David L. Edwards
(Collins, £7.95)

In St George's Chapel, Windsor, the dean sits in the Sovereign's stall. When the Sovereign is present the dean has his place in the sanctuary. This peaceful co-existence was interrupted only once, in the eighteenth century, when the king and the dean fought for a seat. Oh, to have witnessed that paradigm of church and state, that untimely challenge to Royal supremacy! The battle for the chief seats had been lost by the church some 300 years earlier. The Reformation is still a wound in English Christianity, and a scar in national life. A Roman Catholic writer described it as "The Fort is betrayed". David Edwards neatly explains that the betrayed castle *became* the Englishman's home, and shows that the way to understand the Reformation is not through the distorting lens of hindsight but by taking the long view to observe the interdependence of church and state through 13 centuries. Romantic pictures of medieval piety are not enough.

This book describes the growth of two institutions, one of temporal, the other of spiritual power: each learning how to accommodate the other and the individual without destroying the corporate body. The Christianity which came first with the culture of Imperial Rome was succeeded by the piety of the Celtic church, strongest in the North. When Pope Gregory sent his missionary, Augustine, to Kent, Christianity had not died out. But, as David Edwards relates, *for all the attractiveness of the humble and holy men associated with Lindisfarne, they lacked something: authority to teach a creed, to organize an institution, to command. When the English church was united, the union came around the authority of St Peter and his successors in the Bishopric of Rome.*

The Norman conquest firmly established the church as the junior partner in governing the English until the position changed with the death of Thomas Becket. His martyrdom was successful because, a century earlier, St Anselm had been able to explain men's redemption by creating a spiritual feudal system; a theological device to free the church from temporal interference enabled the church to establish temporal privilege. Three hundred and fifty years after Becket's death cartloads of treasure were taken from his tomb at Canterbury to enrich the Royal coffers.

But medieval churches are not regarded today as monuments to a failed political party. Dean Edwards reserves his special affection, not for the political fixings of the church but for its spiritual and artistic achievements. From the beginning, "to become a Christian meant to cease to be a barbarian". Bede and Beowulf, Dame Julian and Geoffrey Chaucer, Piers Plowman and Thomas More all contributed to civilization, and their contribution is given due place. The praise of architecture is worthy of one who has served in King's College, Westminster Abbey and now Norwich Cathedral.

Those who, forgetting the bloodshed, yearn for the beauty of the past will sympathize with the pagan Anglo-Saxons who jeered at drowning monks.
Nobody shall pray for them! May God save none of them! For they have robbed us of the old religion and nobody knows how to cope with all these changes!

Robert Foxcroft

Quick guide

Christianity in Roman Britain to AD 500, by Charles Thomas (Barsford, £14.95). Christianity arrived in Britain three centuries before Augustine. It was not pushed into the sea by the invasions of pagan Barbarians that swept over Romano-British civilization in the fifth century. This first definitive study of our earliest Christian ancestors for 70 years brings together the latest evidence from history, archaeology, and language, particularly place-names and the currency of spoken Latin. The Professor of Cornish Studies at Exeter University demonstrates persuasively how a Christian element among the British survived the Saxon conquests on a scale far greater than formerly believed. He covers the dark, forgotten ground from churches to heresies, burials to bishops, language to art, especially the chi-ro symbols, and from the European connexion to St Ninian taking the faith to southern Scotland and St Patrick to Ireland.

The Human Potential, by Peter Hinchliff and David Young (Darton, Longman and Todd, £4.50). The authors write for those who do, and do not believe, relating God and the churches to everyday existence in a socety which ignores God, unwilling to accept that love and self sacrifice are essential to a Christian life. "The Christian is called to live by a very great ideal, every deviation from which contains the seeds of tragedy", they say, not dodging the problem of evil, pointing out that Jesus transformed men and women, not society, by love. If you want to read one book for Lent, this is it.

From holy lives

Holiness
By Donald Nicholl
(Darton, Longman & Todd, £3.99)

The last few years have seen a spate of books on spirituality and holiness, and this work by the Professor of History and Religious Studies at Santa Cruz, California, is an eminently practical addition to the flood. That should not be a comfortable thought. A recent survey by a group of editors of religious journals found not only that their readership was drawn almost entirely from the upper income bracket, but that though they had a marked desire for articles about spirituality, mysticism and holiness, they had no interest in articles about social justice. As one might expect from a book arising out of the monthly conferences he has given to the Poor Clares since 1974, while Donald Nicholl draws richly on a spectrum of spirituality ranging far outside the Christian tradition to the religions of the East, he makes few concessions to those who like their holiness untainted by the world.

Locating the heart of holiness ultimately in the joy of self-sacrifice, Mr Nicholl helps us first to find the starting-point for such a journey into true humanity. Believing that one truly holy person is worth more than any number of books, he stocks his work with a wealth of illustrations drawn from those holy lives which illuminate each generation. Perhaps inevitably Mother Theresa, with whom he has worked, dominates the book not through the infrequent mention of her name, but as a contemporary model of that holiness of response which drew her from good works among rich Indian girls to serve among the poorest of the poor. Another practical model of holiness is Maximilian Kolbe, the Polish priest, whose ability to take the place of another in the gas-chambers was formed by his long-standing practice of giving others his place in the food-queue. The path to self-sacrifice starts far back in matters of minute particular, and the silken thread of selfish habit which binds us to the earth as firmly as any iron chain can only be loosened strand by strand. The author reminds us of Thomas Merton's dictum that no-one can become holy without being plunged into the mystery of suffering, and warns us that advance is impossible if we have decided beforehand that suffering and joy are mutually exclusive.

Our Western view of man's development from utter dependence into total autonomy is contrasted with the Japanese view that we grow from the speechless, lonely baby into a communion and interdependence of friends, and we are reminded that the great contemplative guides such as St John of the Cross and Duns Scotus themselves spoke from the midst of communities. English readers nourished by Aelred of Rievaulx will be encouraged that Mr Nicholl sees our need for friendships not as a sign of weakness, but as a sign of health, built upon the image of a Trinitarian God. It is consistent with that tradition of English spirituality that he quotes Meister Eckhardt's maxim that "Wisdom (ie holiness) consists in doing the next thing you have to . . . and finding delight in doing it". Mr Nicholl is to be thanked for such a substantial and down-to-earth book.

Nicholas Coulton

Transplantation and recultivation

Christianity in the Southern Hemisphere
The Churches in Latin America and South Africa
By Edward Norman
(Oxford £12.50)

The objective of the 1978 Reith Lecturer, Edward Norman, in his more recent Birkbeck and Prideaux Lectures, which form the basis of his book, was ambitious: to examine "the relationship between the ecclesiastical and the political and social histories of two apparently quite different areas of the world—Latin America and Southern Africa . . . looked at as enormous and complicated examples of what happens to European religious institutions when transplanted and recultivated in unfamiliar circumstances, and in contact with peoples of alien indigenous cultures". Dr Norman reminds us in his preface that there has been surprisingly little ecclesiastical history in both areas. "Some Latin American countries are without a single account of the Catholic Church . . . . In South Africa there are a few denominational histories." Later, Dr Norman records that in 1970 there were 3,000 separate churches and sects in South Africa (which doesn't exactly assist the writing of church history), and "a quarter of all black Christians belong to the Independent churches . . . There are 900 Independent churches in Soweto alone."

Faced with such "enormous and complicated examples", with "surprisingly little ecclesiastical history in both areas", many would say it would be foolhardy for Dr Norman to attempt to reach his objective—in 200 pages: that comparative analysis should wait upon that fuller historical research and writing that Dr Norman implies must yet be undertaken. However, Dr Norman is himself clearly a much-travelled man and includes over 250 books in his 12-page bibliography; and undoubtedly his study takes his readers into important aspects of contemporary religion and society and exposes some of the questions which will not wait upon more adequate research, even if the fruits of comparison are few.

In so brief a study of so vast a canvas, personal opinion—on which so much more might be and needs to be said—is inevitably frequent. One quotation from the Latin American section will serve to illustrate:
Nothing so testifies to the class and cultural separation of the contemporary progressive, urban thought of the Catholic leadership from the values of Catholic folk religion than the Bishop of Cuernavaca's opposition, in 1969 to the construction of a new basilica at Guadalupe—on the grounds that the money would have been better spent on social projects. Pope John Paul II was rather more sensitive to the values of popular religiosity when he visited Mexico for the Puebla Conference of Latin-American bishops in January, 1979. Calling the Mexicans "the people of God", he placed them under the protection of the Virgin of Guadalupe—at whose shrine he made his own devotions. The cultural tenacity of Religiosidad Popular *has almost perfectly served the religious needs of a rural society already noted for its submission to existing conditions—for its lack of aspiration, at least until very recent times, to social improvement.*

Dr Norman divides his study into sections on "Church and State", "Frontier Religion and Sectarianism", and "Christian Social Issues", with a section on "The Liberal Critique of Catholicism" related to Latin America, and "The Churches and the Race Question" related to South Africa. I was not surprised to see that although such a work as Cosmas Desmond's *Christians or Capitalists? Christianity and Politics in South Africa* is included in the bibliography, its judgments seem to have received little notice from Dr Norman; but with so big a bibliography I was surprised to see no mention of the writings of Dr Basil Davidson (eg, *Africa in Modern History, 1978*).

And are not 50 misprints in 200 pages (including eight lines of Africaans lacking the promised English translation) the unacceptable face of publishing today?

Eric James

Law Report March 3 1981 Chancery Divisi

No tax relief in respect of polygamous wife

Nabi v Heaton (Inspector of Taxes)
Before Mr Justice Vinelott
[Judgment delivered February 27]

For income tax purposes a man may only have one wife and can only claim personal relief for her if she either lives with him or is maintained by him. Section 8 (1) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act, 1970, does not entitle a claimant to relief for a polygamous wife maintained by him even if English law should recognize the second marriage contracted under Moslem law as valid.

His Lordship so held in dismissing an appeal by Mr Ghulam Nabi from a decision of general commissioners in Bolton refusing him the relief.

Mr Nabi came to the United Kingdom from Pakistan in 1965, and three years later married Amir under English law. The marriage failed, and they separated in 1969, the marriage being dissolved by decree absolute in 1975. In 1969 Mr Nabi went to Pakistan, where he married Suria Begum in a Moslem ceremony. He then returned to the United Kingdom and maintained Suria in Pakistan until she came to the United Kingdom in November, 1975. For the purposes of the proceedings the parties agreed that Mr Nabi was domiciled in Pakistan at the time of his marriage to Suria Begum.

He appealed against assessments to Schedule E income tax for 1970-76 claiming entitlement to personal relief in respect of Suria Begum. The commissioners held that his second marriage was not valid according to English law and dismissed the appeal.

Section 8 provides a claimant with the relief "if he proves—(i) that for the year of assessment he has his wife living with him, or (ii) that his wife is wholly maintained by him during the year of assessment, and that he is not entitled in computing the amount of his income for that year for income tax purposes to make any deduction in respect of the sums paid for the maintenance of his wife".

Mr J. W. Shock for Mr Nabi; Mr Robert Carnwath for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE VINELOTT said that in support of his claim for the relief Mr Nabi referred to a number of cases that established that a potentially polygamous marriage might now be regarded as valid under English law. In particular he relied on *Imam Din v National Assistance Board* ([1967] 2 QB 213), where a wife under a polygamous marriage was held to be the appellant's "wife" within the meaning of the National Assistance Act, 1948. Lord Justice Salmon in so deciding said: "When a question arises of recognizing a foreign marriage or of construing the word 'wife' in a statute, everything depends upon the purpose for which the marriage is to be recognized and upon the objects of the statute. I ask myself first of all: is there any good reason why the appellant's wife and children should not be recognized as his wife and children for the purpose of the National Assistance Act, 1948? I can find no such reason, and every reason in common sense and justice why they should be so recognized."

Mr Shock submitted that since the war the courts and the legislature had moved a long way towards recognizing polygamous marriages as valid. There was no ground of policy to prevent the court from recognizing the validity of a potentially or actually polygamous marriage for the purposes of section 8. Even if a man was treated for tax purposes as married to two women he could only claim relief for one, and then only if he was living with or maintaining one of them.

His Lordship felt some sympat with that approach but could n accede to it. The Crown's c was put on the footing that Nabi's second marriage could regarded in English law as a va marriage. But, it was said, ev if that was so, under section 8 claimant had to show that he h "his wife" living with him maintained by him. Thus legislature was assuming that claimant could only be marr to one wife and that relief w only available in that case. As Nabi was married during the ye under appeal to Amir, she w his wife for the purposes section 8, and since he w neither living with her nor ma taining her, he was not entitl to the relief.

The Crown's contention had be accepted: The wording of sec tion 8 was clear: it was not ea to see how the words "his wife could be read as including t wives because the section went to refer to his wife "living w him" or being "wholly ma tained by him". To construe "h wife" as meaning "a wife" "any wife" would do vi violence to the language. Acco ingly, without deciding the poi but accepting for present purpo that Mr Nabi was able to esta lish under English law that h second marriage was a valid ma riage, relief under section 8 w not available to him.

The result was to some exte anomalous: had Mr Nabi marri both wives in Pakistan so th both would have been recogniz as wives and he had then come England to live with and mainta them both, on the constructi that his Lordship felt constrain to adopt, Mr Nabi would not ha been entitled to relief in respe of either.

The appeal was dismissed. Th Crown did not ask for costs.

Solicitors: Gregory Rowcliffe Co; Solicitor of Inland Revenu

Misuse of Class F land charge

Barnett v Hassett
Before Mr Justice Wood
[Judgment delivered March 2]

It was a misuse of the Matrimonial Homes Act, 1967, for a husband who had no intention of entering or occupying the matrimonial home to register a Class F charge on the property in order to enable him to freeze the assets of his former wife in pursuit of a claim against her, Mr Justice Wood said in the Family Division when he allowed an application by the wife to set aside the registration of a Class F charge placed on a house owned by her at Golders Green, London.

Mr Scott Baker, QC, and Mr Phillip Vallance for the wife; Mr Nicholas Price for the husband.

HIS LORDSHIP, who gave judgment in open court after a hearing in chambers, said that he had decided the case on affidavit evidence as it was urgent. The parties had married on February 25, 1980, both having been previously married. In November, 1979, contracts had been exchanged between the husband and the owners of a property in Barnet, for its sale to him for £410,000. The husband paid a deposit of £41,000, and the intention was that the parties would live there when married.

The wife owned the Golders Green property as a result of the financial provision ordered in October, 1979, at the end of her first marriage. The husband moved in during March, 1980. He alleged that his wife had said she would pay £60,000 towards the purchase of the Barnet property, but she had not done so. By May, 1980, the husband informed the vendors that he could not complete and forfeited his deposit. He had spent £80,000 on surveys and legal fees.

In July, 1980, the husband left the Golders Green property, and each side intended to petition for judicial separation on the ground of unreasonable behaviour. The same month the wife exchanged contracts for the sale of the house for £395,000. But before the exchange was made the solicitors for the purchaser wrote to the husband requesting that no Class F charge would be placed on the property before completion and the husband replied that he would not. The completion date was extended for the convenience of the wife, who was negotiating the purcase of a flat. Meanwhile the husband registered a Class F charge on the property.

The husband said that before their marriage his wife had agreed that the purchase of the Barnet property should be in their joint names and that she would be responsible for half the purchase price. She repudiated that agreement, and he suffered losses estimated at £120,000, so he claimed that he was justified in acting as he did.

It was submitted for the wife that it would be an abuse of process to make an order freezing any part of the sale proceeds.

The husband's case was that he had rights under section 1 (1) (b) of the Matrimonial Homes Act, 1967, as a spouse not in occupation of the matrimonial home; that he did not want to occupy the home; that he did not want to prevent the sale; that he wanted to freeze £60,000 of the proceeds of sale; that, therefore, he had registered a Class F charge to force his wife to apply to the court to set it aside.

Section 1 of the Act protected a spouse who had no rights to remain in the matrimonial home. It did not protect a spouse who had proprietary, contractual or statutory rights of occupation. If not in occupation the spouse had the right to enter and occupy with the leave of the court. The whole emphasis of the Act w to create and protect the rig to occupation of the spouse n in occupation.

It was abundantly clear th the husband did not intend t enter into or occupy the who or any part of the matrimoni home. Was he therefore entitle to ask the court to freeze an part of the proceeds of sale His Lordship did not think s Section 3 of the Act emphasize that any other interests othe than a right to occupy wer excluded or disregarded. If th intention of the Act had been t allow a spouse to place his or he hands upon the proceeds of sal or to prevent a sale, then h Lordship thought that a charg on a matrimonial home, not i occupation and when a sale wa likely, would be an obvio source of funds. The point ha as yet been undecided.

His Lordship concluded th the registration of the Class charge in the circumstances t the case was not a proper us of the process set up by the Ac and it would be set aside.

Solicitors: S. Rutter & Co; D J. Freeman & Co.

Rating surcharge priority

Westminster City Council v Haymarket Publishing Ltd

The Court of Appeal said that the rating surcharge on unused commercial property by section 17A of the General Rate Act, 1967, was imposed on the owner of the property, which was defined by the Act as the person entitled to possession, and did not include a mortgagee unless he had entered into possession; but the surcharge was, by virtue of section 17B(3), to be a "charge on the land", and, accordingly, was a charge on all the interests in the land which took priority over a mortgage.

Their Lordships dismissed an appeal by the defendants, Haymarket Publishing Ltd, from a decision of Mr Justice Dillon granting the plaintiffs, Westminster City Council, a declaration that their charge for £16,940 by way of rating surcharge on property at Lancaster Gate, London, had priority over the defendants' interest in the property. The defendants had acquired their interest from the mortgagees, National Westminster Bank Ltd.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that the question was who was liable to pay; who was the owner; who was entitled to possession? It was quite plain that until a mortgagee entered into possession and took the rents and profits the mortgagor was entitled to possession. He had control of the letting, and so was liable to pay the surcharge.

Then in section 17B the surcharge was said to be a "charge on the land". That was ambiguous and difficult to interpret, but there was a series of cases which led inevitably to the conclusion that it meant a charge on all the interests in the land. It had been submitted that the words of the statute should be confined to cases in respect of improvements and should not apply in the case of penal provisions such as the present case. But a charge on the land meant a charge on all the interests and estates in the land, and that seemed to conform to the intention of Parliament. Any other view would lead to the avoidance of the charge altogether. The judge was right in holding that the charge took priority over the mortgage. The appeal should be dismissed.

Lord Justice Shaw and Lord Justice Oliver agreed.

Second complaint vexatious

Acrow (Engineers) Ltd v Hathaway

An originating application claiming compensation for unfair dismissal made within the statutory time limit but after a previous complaint on the same grounds had been withdrawn and dismissed by an industrial tribunal was vexatious within the meaning of rule 11 (2) (e) of the schedule to the Industrial Tribunals (Labour Relations) Regulations, 1974, and should be struck out, Mr Justice Browne-Wilkinson said in the Employment Appeal Tribunal.

The court allowed an appeal by the employer, Acrow (Engineers) Ltd, from a decision of a Cambridge industrial tribunal last August rejecting the employers' application to strike out an unfair dismissal claim by the employee, Mr Michael Hathaway.

MR JUSTICE BROWNE WILKINSON said that the employee had withdrawn his first complaint the day before it was due to be heard because he was too unwell to represent himself and professional help was not available. The industrial tribunal had duly dismissed it. Some weeks later he made a further application on the same grounds. That procedure was vexatious within the meaning of the rules. An industrial tribunal had wide powers of review under rule 9 where the interests of justice required it. It would not ordinarily be right to make a fresh application without pursuing the remedy of review. To do so was vexatious, and the second complaint would be struck out.

In *Regina v Packon* (February 28), the italicized words in "Since *R v Tolson* (1889) 23 QBD 168), it had been generally *accepted that* an honest and reasonable mistake of fact was a good defence to a charge." were omitted in early editions.

Shopkeeper to fight law on metrication

A shopkeeper who was fined £220 by Eastbourne magistrates yesterday for contravening the Weights and Measures Act by selling vegtables, fruit and nuts in avoirdupois instead of metric weights said yesterday he would go to prison to fight metrication.

Derek Howell, who runs a chain of health food shops in Sussex and Kent, was given 14 days to pay and was ordered to pay £50 for breaking the condition for a 12-month discharge imposed by magistrates last December for five similar offences.

The prosecution against his tow stores in Terminus Road, Eastbourne, was brought by East Sussex County Council's trading standards department.

Mr Howell claimed that metrication made things confusing for customers who were used to pounds and ounces.

"Metrication is a nonsense now because the Government has abolished the metrication board. I sell all my goods in Imperial weights, with the metric equivalent printed clearly alongside. If a recipe stated four grams of almonds nobody would know what it meant."

Jury is told of man who never came to dinner

John Wallace murdered his young assistant's husband after falling in love with her while they worked together on the television programme, *It's a Knock-out*, it was alleged today.

Mr Wallace, information officer with Arun District Council, knocked Jane Lewis's husband unconscious and then dumped his body in the river Arun, Mr Daniel Hollis, QC, told Lewes Crown Court.

He committed the murder on the day after the couple's first wedding anniversary, and possibly got rid of the body during a dinner party he had organized for Mrs Lewis, the jury was told.

Mr Wallace, aged 37, of Dellaway Road, Arundel, Sussex, denies murdering Mr Lewis, aged 29, a Brighton antiques dealer, on August 5 last year.

Mr Hollis said that Mr Wallace had been in love with Mrs Lewis, aged 29. "On the very day of a surprise dinner party he had arranged in her honour, he attacked him (Mr Lewis) in such a way that his skull was fractured", Mr Hollis said.

The body was put in the boot of a car lent to Mr Wallace for the television programme, it was alleged. He probably thought he had killed Mr Lewis, but he was still alive when he was put into the river, where he died from drowing.

"It was the case of the man who never came to dinner and the case of the man who left the dinner party in order to dispose of his victim."

Mr Hollis said that Mr Wallace, a married man, and Mrs Lewis helped to organize the programme, *It's a Knock-Out*, at Arundel last July. Mr Wallace developed an emotional attachment for her.

When Mr Wallace arrived at the dinner party he said Mr Lewis would be late. He left, saying he felt sick, and it was alleged that he could have then looked for a place to dump the body.

Mrs Lewis made several telephone calls during the dinner, then reported her husband missing.

The trial, which is expected to last three weeks, continues today.

18 crashes in fog

Thick fog caused 18 accidents involving 30 vehicles on the London-bound carriageway of the M2 between the Gillingham and Chatham intersections in Kent yesterday.



The economy

Deepest depression since the 1930s —but not all is gloom

In Denmark there are no seditions, mutinies, or rebellions against the government—but all the people are, or appear to be, lovers of their king, notwithstanding their ill-treatment, and the hardships they groan under. And I suppose one principal reason of this to be the equality of the taxes, and the manner of taxing. It is not to be imagined by those that see it not, what a comfort it is to the sufferers to be ill-used alike.

Robert Molesworth, English envoy to Copenhagen, 1694.

The Danish economy is experiencing its deepest depression since the 1930s. Not all is gloom, however, in the country still enjoying the highest material standard of living in the European Economic Community. The trade deficit fell in 1980 to 14,600m kroner (£955m) from the 19,400m kroner (£1,270m) recorded in 1979.

Thanks to a 22 per cent improvement in exports bolstered by an increase in imports of only about 12 per cent, the holding down of the trade deficit came as particularly good news for the Social Democratic minority government of Prime Minister Anker Jorgensen, as a deficit in the order of 21,000m kroner had been predicted by most analysts.

But at 3.5 per cent of the gross domestic product, the deficit remains [illegible] high and a similar deficit is expected again this year. The Danish Government's long-term strategy [illegible] a balance in trade by the end of the decade, reducing unemployment to below 2 per cent.

Denmark's [illegible] foreign debt [illegible] 80,000m kroner (or 23 per cent of [illegible]). The present Government, elected in October 1979, has carried out [illegible] deflationary policies.

A devaluation of the krone by 5 per cent, the first such move by Denmark since the Second World War, carried out in November 1979, was followed up by a series of economic austerity packages aimed [illegible] at shoring up the balance of payments, curbing domestic energy consumption and implying a *de facto* 5 per cent drop in the disposable income of the average Dane as well as raising VAT to an overall 22 per cent.

The bank rate was, however, allowed to fall from a record 13 per cent to 11 per cent in two consecutive adjustments last autumn, and a realignment of the krone within the EMS (European Monetary System) combined with new economic austerity measures later this spring has been ruled out.

The krone, which until now has been unusually strong within the system, was yesterday considerably weakened because of pressure from the other EMS members.

Still on a positive note inflation, approaching at one point 14 per cent last year, has been clawed back to below the 10 per cent mark, and consumer price rises look like holding at about 7 per cent this year.

Another positive trend can be seen in the private sector collective bargaining negotiations for the next two-year period being completed this spring, and which look like ending in wage settlements averaging about 7 to 8 per cent a year, twice the accords reached in Sweden, but none the less realistic given the Danish economic situation.

Although difficulties loom in the complex printing sector, it would seem that government intervention in wage agreements will be avoided this year.

In the public sector, agreements are not due to be made final until next month. Resourceless Denmark, which has to date not derived the maximum out of its offshore North Sea oil and gas fields, can expect dividends from that source later on in the decade, thus reducing the country's dependence on imported Middle East oil.

When Denmark's North Sea gas comes on stream in 1984, the North Sea will be supplying 30 per cent of the country's total energy requirements, rising to more than half by the end of the decade if all goes well.

On the other side of the coin, Denmark is in slump and domestic economic activity is expected to fall further in 1981. In 1980 private consumption showed its largest fall in the post-war period; housing construction dropped by 40 per cent to reach its lowest level since the early 1930s as did purchases of (imported) cars. .. Unemployment, at more than 7 per cent, is rampant, showing no sign of decline, and industrial and agricultural investments have fallen to an embarrassing low, hitting the economy at its most sensitive point.

If Denmark is to produce itself out of its crisis, as many experts recommend, investment will surely be needed. In the meantime, total Danish production falls by about 1 per cent a year and bankruptcies abound. Even if, as some experts forecast, gross domestic product recovers somewhat this year, unemployment could rise to beyond 8 per cent from its present 200,000 to about 250,000 and beyond, approaching British proportions. Hence a new Government employment scheme announced last month and aimed at creating 10,000 new jobs this year, increasing to 45,000 by 1983 at a cost of 1,500m kroner. All in all there is a strong flavour of British Thatcherism in today's Social Democratic Denmark, with factories closing and industries and farming enterprise folding en masse.

The difference lies in the standard of living. Last year's OECD report on the 1979 tax-benefit position of a typical worker put the highly taxed Dane second only (out of 21 countries) in the industrialized world to the Swiss as regards take-home income a year. While the Swiss averaged the equivalent of 97,850 kroner after tax, the Dane came second with 73,250 kroner. By contrast the British worker came in sixteenth place taking home a meagre 46,700 kroner.

Christopher Follett

The butter market

Declining exports to Britain a problem

Mr Jens Majgaard might be described as the king of the Danish butter mountain. A fluent and effusive Eurocrat, he is the managing director of Butterdane, the country's cooperative export marketing organization which has its headquarters in Aarhus, Jutland. With butter consumption in Britain, Denmark's largest customer, declining Mr Majgaard will have his work cut out in the next 12 months not only to stabilize the position but to improve overall sales in the face of competition from New Zealand—and from margarine.

Last year butter consumption in Britain was about 380,000 tonnes, which was about 12 per cent less than in the previous year. According to one survey of EEC countries Britain's per capita consumption of butter has fallen steadily from 8.8 kg in 1965 to an estimated 5.8 kg last year, while during that period the consumption of margarine has gone up in roughly the same proportions. Denmark has the second largest share of the British butter market, with 10.9 per cent, after New Zealand which has by far the largest share with 26.1 per cent (apart from British butter makers, who hold 29.5 per cent).

According to Mr Majgaard there were several factors responsible for the decline in Britain's consumption: the general recession, higher prices compared with those of margarine, and adverse publicity resulting from the health issues.

"But there will be an increase in sales to Britain during 1981 and 1982", Mr Majgaard predicted. He said that the decline in consumption would definitely halt. He described the health issue as "a bluff", said that it was over in West Germany where sales were picking up, and implied that the same would happen in Britain. Butterdane hopes that it will take 13.5 per cent of the market share—its biggest for five years—which would be equivalent to 40,000 tonnes of Lurpak and Danelea packets.

Last year sales to Britain were about 37,000 tonnes of packet butter, 5,500 tonnes less than in 1979. This was partly because there had been a shortage of milk in Denmark at the beginning of the year and also because of increased cheese production.

Speaking about New Zealand, "our competitor and colleague", Mr Majgaard said he felt no animosity towards it as a butter producer. "Our main criticism is against the United Kingdom Government and the EEC", he said.

He went on: "We have got to the point where we have to accept that there should and must be continued access for New Zealand butter. . . We feel that to some extent we have been promised things which did not come to be. First we were told that by 1978 there would be no more New Zealand butter; and then we were told it would be by 1980. Now we are being told that there will always be New Zealand butter."

He felt that people often did not understand that the overall butter market had shrunk, and he was critical because the amount of New Zealand butter allowed into the market had not been reduced accordingly.

Michael Frenchman

Mr Jens Majgaard, managing director of Butterdane: king of the Danish butter mountain.

Handling commerce

Embassy's dual role

There is no Anglo-Danish chamber of commerce in either Britain or Denmark. In London much of the work normally undertaken by such a body is carried out at the Danish Embassy. In Copenhagen businessmen have the assistance of the British Import Union, with offices in the building occupied by the city's chamber of commerce.

At the embassy's West End offices overlooking Cadogan Place, London, the commercial section, headed by a counsellor and an attaché, is occupied principally in offering advice, help and services to Danish firms trading with Britain. But it also assists British companies willing to represent Danish exporters.

Two years ago the Anglo-Danish Trade Advisory Board was set up. It consists of British and Danish businessmen, including the chairman of the British Import Union, who meet from time to time to give advice to the embassy staff, and sometimes to grumble about their problems.

It is thought that at least 350 Danish companies have subsidiaries in Britain, and the situation has changed since the days when imports simply meant bacon and dairy products. For example, Danish bankers have arrived, sometimes in joint ventures with other Nordic countries.

One of the commercial section's roles is to research the market for particular products, find suitable business connexions in Britain, then arrange contacts. Early in April representatives of Danish firms making agricultural machinery are expected to come to London to meet British importers.

Seminars are held in a conference room at the embassy. Visiting Danish representatives can also set up office in this room for a day or two, with the use of telephone and other equipment. There is a small exhibition hall.

What officials describe as a small fee is charged for the use of these rooms. On the other hand, grants can sometimes be made from the Danish Trade Fund towards expenses in taking part in trade fairs and other joint presentations.

Although the emphasis is on importing, a commercial library is open to businessmen of both countries interested in mutual trade. An information letter is sent out regularly.

A Danish Club has flourished in London for well over 100 years. It is now in Knightsbridge, with 700 members in Britain and 200 in Denmark. Membership is open to Scandinavians, and other nationals with special interest in Denmark can become associate members.

Patrick O'Leary

Helping the salesman

BIU to the rescue

A Danish businessman reads in the press that a British firm is about to launch a pocket radio-telephone on the market and he wants the sales agency in Denmark. He has not done any business with Britain before, so how does he cope? He contacts the British Import Union (BIU), which will help him with the British contacts and practical matters.

For more than a century BIU in Copenhagen has worked for the greatest possible cooperation between Denmark and the United Kingdom. The union's stated objective is to pursue that aim on the basis of the strong historical, cultural and economic ties between the two countries. Yet the name of the union implies that its object is merely to promote imports from Britain. This was the original intention but the union's ordinances were changed when the present chairman of the board, Mr Steen Langebaek, was appointed four years ago.

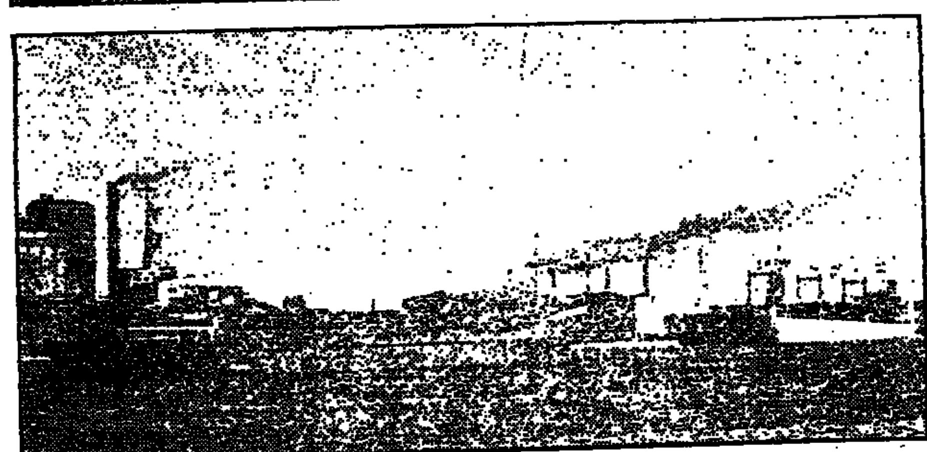
Asked why the change was made, Mr Langebaek says: "It is not merely the economy we look at, since cooperation involves many things—cultural exchanges for example—and in the future we are going to concentrate more on that too. We feel that the Danes have a positive attitude to the British way of life and we have to be careful to preserve this attitude since the influence from the Continent is increasing."

When BIU was formed in the 1930s it helped to amend some of the Danish laws so as to abolish trade restrictions. It maintains close contact with the British embassy in Copenhagen and the Danish embassy in London, as well as with the Anglo-Danish Society in both countries. On Mr Langebaek's initiative the Anglo Danish Trade Advisory Board was founded in London in 1979 as the first of its kind in any capital. It is run from the Danish embassy and has had considerable success in guiding United Kingdom businessmen.

The BIU arranges working luncheons at which leaders of commerce and industry, government ministers and men of letters give lectures.

On the export side, various institutions operate to help visiting businessmen. Ministries involved include foreign affairs, through its trade department, and agriculture, industry and fisheries. Four principal institutions operate: the Federation of Danish Industries, the Danish Handicraft Council, the Agricultural Council and the Danish Chamber of Commerce.

Annelise Hopson



The port at Aalborg, on the Limfjorden, which connects the eastern side of Jutland with the North Sea.

Industrial locations

Just a sea of islands

Denmark is really a sea of islands with only one part, Jutland, connected to the mainland of Europe. Apart from Copenhagen, on the island of Zealand, capital and industrial centre of the country, its other three major towns, Aarhus, Aalborg, and Esjberg, are all in Jutland which stretches northwards from Germany tapering to a spit of sand at Skagen (the Skaw) sticking out into the channel between Denmark and Sweden.

The spit of sand, Grenen, literally means twig when translated into English. And this is all it really seems to be as it almost bends and moves as the fierce winds and currents of the Skaggerak pour across the spit.

Aarhus, more than a thousand years old was a Viking settlement once and today is a major port with about 250,000 inhabitants. The harbour is being enlarged with an extended container handling facility. There are more than 200 medium and large industrial companies in the municipality. But because of the general economic situation in Denmark industrial development and business is not too good at present.

"In fact we are stagnating. There is too much uncertainty about the future from an industrial point of view", said Mr Erik Skou, manager of the Danish Provincial Chamber of Commerce in Aarhus. "We are waiting for the Government to do something. We must have lower rents. True, we have had some stability with wage levels, and there is a little more optimism today than there was recently."

Mr Skou thought that some of the larger companies were not facing the same problems as the smaller ones, those with less than 200 employees. Many of the latter had developed good technical knowledge and manufacturing skills which they were unable to capitalize on in order to export.

Mr Skou explained: "This is because we suffer from a lack of language expertise. Many directors of these small companies with good creative ideas do not have language ability and only speak Danish. Hence they cannot get into the export scene.

Further north, at Aalborg, world renowned for its aquavit, which is named after the city, the North Jutland Development Corporation is trying to attract foreign investment.

It recently hired the Chicago-based Fantus Company to prepare a business investment plan for the area to attract United States companies. About 600 American businesses have been approached so far.

"We believe that about 40 may be interested", said Mr Jens Skov, of the development corporation. Most of these are in high technology areas, mainly electronics. Next month representatives of the North Jutland Development Corporation will be going to the United States to try to clinch a deal with some of the interested companies. "If we only get one we shall be happy", Mr Skov said.

Esjberg, on the west coast is the main ferry port for services between Denmark and Britain. It is from there that DFDS has been operating links with Britain for 100 years, mostly to Harwich. On this service the line carried 400,000 passengers last year—representing 63 per cent capacity with 100 per cent for vehicles. DFDS also operates a joint service between Newcastle upon Tyne and Gothenberg in Sweden for the three summer months.

Esjberg is the main export port for Danish products to Britain. Most of these are agricuturally based and originate from the surrounding hinterland of Jutland.

As a tourist area Jutland, with its miles of beaches and sand dunes, has much to offer. There are thousands of holiday cottages to let and it is ideal country for hiking and cycling, with low undulating hills often crowned with beechwoods. For the yachtsman, the Limfjorden, links the North Sea with the calmer waters of the eastern inner sea. There are many yacht harbours which are often packed in the summer months.

For the archaeologist there are Viking ruins and settlements from the ancient town of Hedeby in the south to the folk museum with the "bog man" at the mansion of Moesgard near Aarhus. Moesgard also has some reconstructed prehistoric houses and in Aarhus itself is the delightful Gamle By, or old town where old houses and shops from the medieval age to the nineteenth century have been assembled as a historic tourist attraction.

M.F.

Danish exports mean more than just bacon and butter. Some of the less familiar manufactured products as well as the better known ones are featured below

Green boxes for sound service

"There's always a lot of 'greenstuff' on most of the oil rigs and platforms", says Mr Holger Kaasby, one of S.P. Radio's directors talking about Simon Petersen's green tin boxes which almost every yachtsman and offshore fisherman worth his salt will have on board his boat.

S.P. Radio is the largest manufacturer of marine radios in the world and 93 per cent of its total production is for export. The company was founded in 1948 by Mr Petersen, now nearly 80 years old, who began business by producing small domestic radios. But with the advent of television in the 1950s Mr Petersen, who still comes into the factory every day found he was competing with about 20 other manufacturers of radio and television sets.

"So, in 1961", said Mr Kaasby who joined the company in 1952, "we started to look around in order to find an area in the radio business in which we could specialize. In the end we found one—marine radios".

But before launching into production the company took an important marketing design decision which was to have vital consequences. Mr Kaasby explained: "We wanted to produce something which was distinctive, which would make us different. So, working on the Henry Ford principle that you could have a car of any colour you wanted so long as it was black we decided to make all our marine radio cabinets green." Thus the famous Petersen "green tin boxes" were born. To this day nobody claims to remember who actually chose green or why, other than that Mr Kaasby believes the colour goes well with the gleaming mahogany woodwork to be found in many yachts.

The company's first small marine radio was the 16T which was for yachtsmen only and the set had facilities even in those early days in 1961 for radio direction finding, a means of working out your position at sea by tuning the set to a transmitter frequency beamed from the land. Altogether some 500 of these early sets were produced in the first two years but there was nothing like enough to satisfy the demand.

So, three years later, the company went over entirely to producing marine radios for Danish yachtsmen and fishermen. As business grew the company began looking overseas, starting with neighbouring West Germany. Export opportunities multiplied rapidly and today the company has agents in more than 60 countries

The factory in Aalborg in North Jutland has fewer than 300 employees and produces a dozen or more different models of radios from a popular small vhf radio telephone for yachtsmen and fishermen to an elaborate all-wave main station composite set for merchant vessels. Since the RT 144C model was produced for the small boat market four years ago, more than 60,000 units have been sold.

Sailor radios are not cheap as Mr Kaasby admits. "We go for the more expensive end of the market. What we are selling is reliability and quality. All the time during our development and manufacture it is quality, quality, quality which counts. It's no good having a radio which won't work under the worst conditions, which is when you probably need it."

The sets go through vigorous quality control including violent bump testing and drop testing to make sure they can survive the type of storm conditions which may be encountered by small boats. "After all, someone's life may depend on a Sailor set", says Mr Kaasby recalling one yachtsman whose craft foundered after a gale off the Dutch coast.

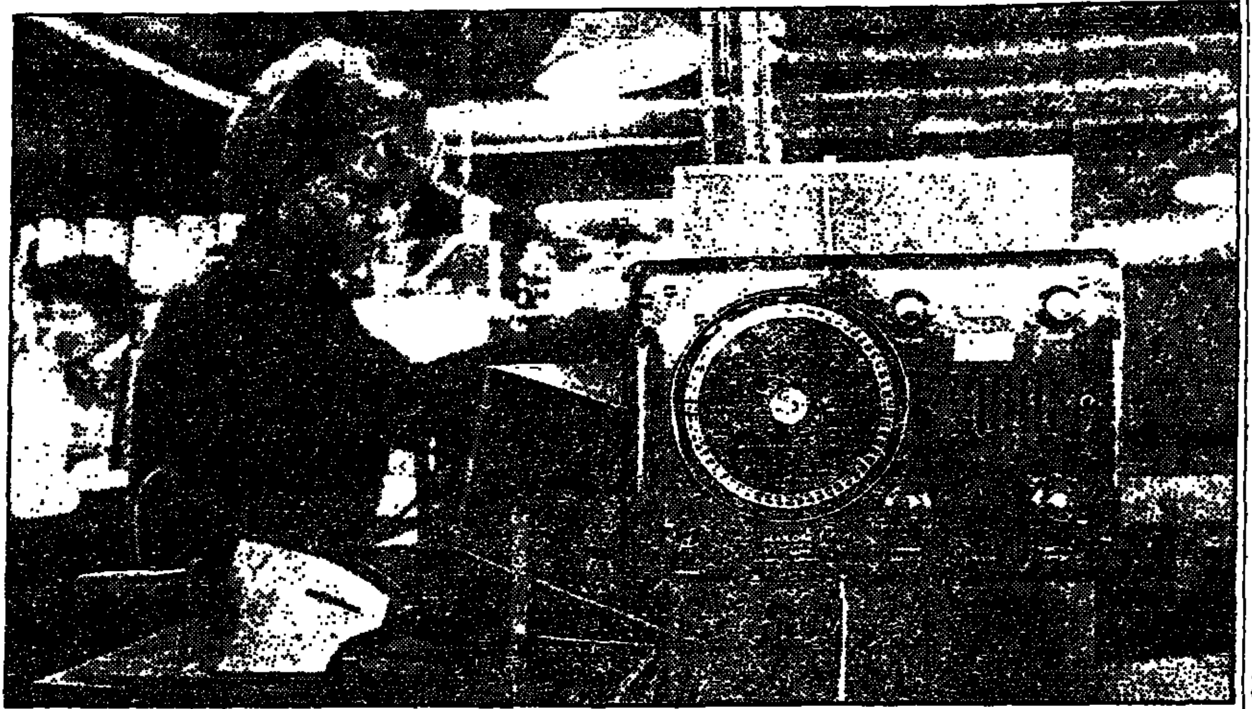
"This chap had just fitted the radio and had come through the Kiel Canal from the Baltic. Then he got in this gale and things went wrong so he had to call for help as his yacht was sinking. Luckily he was saved. Afterwards he contacted us saying it was the only time he had used the set, but it was the one call that made the capital outlay for the radio worth while." There are no doubt many similar stories about the "green boxes".

Every set—about 60 to 70 are made daily at present—is hand-built and assembled. There is almost no automation in the small modern factory where most of the assembly work is done by deft fingered women. They all wear earphones at work so that they can listen to music while doing many of the repetitive tasks. "It helps them concentrate", said Mr Kaasby, "and also prevents them from chatting to each other so we get better productivity and fewer mistakes".

Although not manufactured to defence specifications, Sailor radios now have such a reputation for quality and reliability that many navies around the world have begun ordering sets in addition to their own normal requirements. One South American navy has just completed an order for 300 small vhf radio telephone sets.

Surprisingly this recessionary period has had no effect on the demand for the radios and as spring approaches production will be increased to about 100 sets a day. More than 4m kroner to 5m kroner is invested in research annually. Research and development are major priorities and the department has about 20 people in all. Those rugged green boxes now add yet another meaning to the familiar phrase "hello, Sailor".

Michael Frenchman



Assembling a vhf marine radio at the S.P. Radio factory.

Toys go marching on

Despite stagnation in the international toy market LEGO System, the manufacturer of Lego bricks—sets of interlocking construction blocks or automatic binding bricks for children—based in Billund, Jutland, recorded a sales increase of about 25 per cent to the retail trade worldwide in 1980. The rapid growth in production and sales has led to LEGO increasing its manpower at home by 150 new jobs and abroad by almost 400 in the past year alone (the company now employs 2,400 in Denmark and 1,200 abroad).

The LEGO group—which comprises about 30 Danish and foreign companies—has infiltrated 125 markets throughout the world since 1952 and the firm estimates (not without a certain pride) that 97.5 per cent of its total production is sold outside Denmark. Of total LEGO production 69 per cent is sold in Europe and 18 per cent in the United States. West Germany is still the firm's largest single market, but the United States, with an increase of 22 per cent in 1980, is one of the most dynamic.

Other notable sales increases recorded last year were in Italy, Spain, Canada and Australia, while Japan, together with markets in Africa and the Middle East, showed a 50 per cent increase in sales. In Singapore a new sales company—LEGO's seventeenth outside Denmark—was opened.

Besides its sales companies, LEGO has four production factories abroad, two in Switzerland, one in West Germany and one in the United States. LEGO's top sellers are its so-called basic boxes and product sets geared to children in the one to 14 age group. Space and train sets are also among LEGO's most popular collections. In 1981 a new series of 22 boxes for use in kindergartens and schools is to be launched.

For competitive reasons, the LEGO group declines to publish details of its turnover and consolidated accounts. However, an analysis in the normally reliable Danish financial daily newspaper *Boersen* recently put the firm's 1979 pre-tax profit in the region of 250m kroner (£16.6m) with a net capital of more than 1,000m kroner (£66.4m). If these estimates are accurate, LEGO rates among the top 10 most lucrative concerns in Denmark.

Christopher Follett

Where Nelson shopped

After winning the Battle of Copenhagen in 1801, Lord Nelson found time to do some shopping in Copenhagen. Although he could hardly be considered a typical tourist, he did what so many visitors do today: he went straight to the Royal Copenhagen porcelain factory. He bought some china for his beloved Lady Hamilton and his total purchases are known precisely from accounts which still exist. He acquired "luncheon set no 35 in travelling case, dressing case with fittings, two antique writing sets and seven smaller writing sets".

The company is the oldest existing industrial concern in Denmark, and the only company founded under the sponsorship of the Crown in 1775. It was Queen Juliane Marie who suggested the factory's trade mark, the three blue wavy lines, that symbolize the waterways through Denmark—the Little Belt, the Great Belt and the Sound.

Through its more than 200 years of existence the Royal Copenhagen has kept its traditional designs, but as greater productivity was needed, new items were designed.

Decades ago porcelain manufacturers all over Europe were faced with increased labour costs and many adopted mechanical ways of decorating, but Royal Copenhagen has maintained hand decoration for almost all its production.

One of the most famous Royal Copenhagen table services is the Flora Danica. It was made in 1789 for Catherine II of Russia as a gift from the Danish royal family and was composed of 1,800 pieces. The Empress, however, died before the service was completed and it is now in the possession of the Danish royal family. The second set of Flora Danica was made in 1863 for Princess Alexandra of Denmark on the occasion of her wedding to the Prince of Wales, later King Edward VII. Since then the service has been in regular production and always hand painted.

Royal Copenhagen works in two ways. On the porcelain side, artists decorate the items which may take days to complete. At the same time modern machines produce tableware at great speed. Some 50 per cent of the production is exported.

Several basic bodies are used to produce different wares. The porcelains are vitrified, translucent bodies, earthenware represents a more rugged production, and a line of stoneware is made which is designed and decorated by artists.

It is estimated that 60 per cent of the total production is art ware and the rest dinner ware. Britain is among the six principal importers of Royal Copenhagen and items such as vases, figurines and ashtrays of underglazed, decorated porcelain are very popular.

The underglaze technique was developed by the artist Arnold Krog in 1884 as he tried to capture the soft colours of the Danish landscape. Special water colours are applied before the glaze to porcelain, whereas with overglaze the decoration is painted with oil colours on top of the glaze. The new technique was considered an important advance in the history of porcelain manufacture and Mr Krog won Royal Copenhagen's first grand prix at the World Exhibition in Paris in 1889.

In 1898 Royal Copenhagen founded its British subsidiary company in London where today it also runs a firm together with another of its subsidiaries, Georg Jensen, Silversmith.

Annelise Hopson

New Comecon brew

The Copenhagen-based United Breweries (De Forenede Bryggerier), an amalgam of Carlsberg and Tuborg, is the largest brewery operation in northern Europe and the fifth biggest in turnover in western Europe. The group exports to some 150 countries and is Denmark's sixth largest industrial concern.

Since 1976, Carlsberg's and Turborg's sales outside Denmark have exceeded domestic sales. The top export markets are the United States, Britain, Belgium, France, West Germany, the Middle East and Africa. In addition licensees now operate in 15 countries, including Cyprus, Greece, Yugoslavia, Tunisia, Ivory Coast, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Austria, the United States and Canada.

In 1962, Tuborg will become the first western European brand of beer to be brewed in a Comecon country, after successful negotiations between the brewery and the Trust of Hungarian Breweries in Budapest.

Despite a reduction in beer consumption caused by the general economic recession and the poor summer last year in most European countries, Carlsberg was able to complete an extension to its factory in Northampton, which has been in operation since 1973, recording increased demand for its canned lagers and a net profit of £4.4m. In Africa, Carlsberg's Malawi Brewery could note a 5 per cent increase in production, while Tuborg's Türk Brewery in Izmir, despite difficult political and economic conditions in Turkey, achieved an 18 per cent growth rate in relation to 1978-79.

In addition Carlsberg is to open a new brewery in Tai Poi, Hongkong, this spring to serve the company's growing Far East markets. The brewery will have a capacity of 150,000 hectolitres (or 4 million bottles) of beer [a] year. Danbrew Consult is th[e] group's newly formed tech[n]ical and engineering know-how and turnkey uni[t] designed to work overseas. Running it is the projec[t] group responsible for th[e] construction of th[e] Northampton brewery an[d] United Breweries' lates[t] expansion in Denmark—th[e] modern Fredericia (Jutland) Brewery, which has a[n] annual capacity of 1,100,00[0] hectolitres and was opene[d] in 1979.

The United Breweries' latest development is NA[B] (non-alcoholic beer)—i[n] powder form—with which [it] hopes to make inroads in[to] Muslim markets. Exporte[d] in sacks, the NAB powde[r] has merely to be added t[o] water and carbonated t[o] produce light non-alcoholi[c] ale, meaning that it can b[e] produced in the most rud[i]mentary of bottling plant[s] at minimal cost.

NAB, launched last yea[r] in bottled form on th[e] Danish domestic market, i[s] not yet in full production i[n] its powdered form. Carlsberg claims however tha[t] the product has met with [a] good reception particularl[y] in North Africa and Saud[i] Arabia where the brewer[y] hopes to circumvent Islami[c] bans on alcoholic beers an[d] enter the market in the no[t] too distant future.

United Breweries' grou[p] net profits (after tax) wen[t] up from 163m kroner t[o] 176m kroner last year. Carlsberg and Tuborg sales o[f] beer outside Denmark hav[e] increased five-fold durin[g] the past decade and no[w] account for 60 per cent o[f] total sales. The profits al[so] go to the Carlsberg and Tuborg Foundations, whic[h] support the arts an[d] sciences.

C.F.

Shipyard saved

After a year of turmoil in which three changes of chairman and five of managing director took place, Burmeister & Wain, the parent company of the industrial, engineering and shipbuilding group—not so long ago the doyen of Danish industry—was finally declared bankrupt last autumn. The deficit stood at 145m kroner (£9.6m). Fortunately the bankruptcy had no direct effect on the B & W shipyard in Copenhagen, which now operates as a limited company in its own right, or on B & W Diesel, now a subsidiary of Maschinenfabrik Augsburg-Nürnberg (MAN) of Hamburg, West Germany, also an independent company.

Claims against the defunct parent company cannot affect these two (now separate) firms, both of which are looking forward to a brighter future in the 1980s. The reconstituted Burmeister & Wain shipyard has a share capital of 80m kroner and a net capital of 112m kroner. To supplement this, the Danish Government has granted the company an export credit guarantee of 225m kroner in connexion with the construction of 10 64,000 tonnes fuel-saving bulk carrier ships, a type of vessel in which B & W has specialized with great success since the 1950s.

Four of these bulk carriers now on the shipyard's order books are for the state-owned China Ocean Shipping Company of Peking. The value of the orders for the 10 bulk carriers is put at 2,000m kroner in all, and negotiations on a further six to various other potential purchasers from overseas, at a value of a further 1,500m kroner, are in progress. The shipyard puts growing international demand for grain and coal transportation vessels as the reason for the increasing interest in its new bulk carriers, which have a fuel consumption 20 per cent lower than that of conventional carriers, the equivalent of a saving of 40 tonnes of fuel a day at an average speed of 15 knots.

With its order books filling up quickly, B & W Shipbuilding has work for the next two years at least. While the yard last year employed 900 workers, the complement is today in the region of 1,600. The first bulk carrier of the new type was delivered earlier this year, and four others are scheduled for completion later in 1981.

About 25 per cent of all diesel-driven ships in the world are powered by Danish engines. With an impressive 45 per cent of the world market for its giant motors, B & W Diesel is the world's top producer of large marine engines, rivalled only by Sulzer of Switzerland, which has 44 per cent of the market.

B & W Diesel's turnover in 1980 was 1,100m kroner, of which 60 per cent was accounted for by exports. B & W Diesel, with three production workshops in Denmark, manufacturing two and four-stroke engines and providing service facilities, expects to increase its exports to 70 per cent of production this year, and be able once more to report profits again in 1982. The firm has 25 licensees for its diesel engines in 15 countries world wide.

C.F.

Radio tuning by voice commands

Many years ago a reviewer attacked Danish radio design, asking: "Is it fishmongers or potato growers who design these things in their spare time?" This remark resulted in skilled designers being employed by Bang & Olufsen, manufacturers of hi-fi equipment in Struer, northern Jutland. Their cooperation in the factory's product development division has resulted in international recognition of the excellent design and technical quality achieved.

This company, which is small by comparison with many of its competitors, has gained a remarkable position in the international market. In recognition, New York's Museum of Modern Art has chosen a representative selection of sound equipment from Bang & Olufsen for inclusion in the museum's permanent design.

For the whole of its 56 years the company has produced radios, television sets, tape-recorders and record players. It is the only concern in the world which makes a television set with a unit that gives the viewer full remote control not only of the television programmes but also of the connected teledata and videotape apparatus.

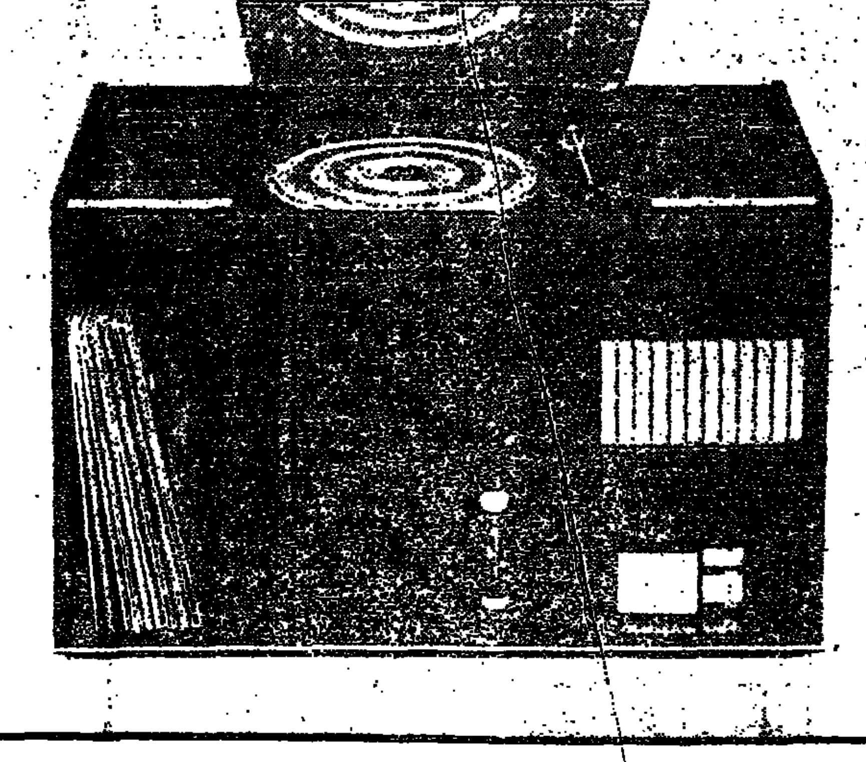
Bang & Olufsen's slogan is that technique is the servant and not the master. Its truth may be seen in devices that are technically very complicated but easily operated.

Asked about the future of the company, Mr Kaj-Ivan Baek says: "I believe the greatest development will take place within the video sector. In radio, digitalization or impulse code modulation will gain importance. It will be possible to choose a station or programme with the sort of music or entertainment you want without knowing the station's frequency. The radio itself will seek the impulse which gives the type of programme required."

The company is researching pulse code modulation, which makes apparatus susceptible to commands from the human voice. "We know it can be done, and we are trying to find out how", Mr Baek says.

Bang & Olufsen's turnover in 1980 was 860m kroner. Exports rose by 57m kroner and are now about 600m kroner. The company employs 2,500 people in Denmark and has eight subsidiary companies abroad, including one on the important British market, Bang & Olufsen UK.

A.H.



A hi-fi music system incorporating tuner, stereo amplifier, record player and cassette deck.

Broadcast helped penicillin research

A British wartime radio broadcast enabled the Danish pharmaceutical and biochemical company, Novo Industry, to be among the first in the world to introduce a stable form of penicillin.

When the Second World War started, research moved from the theatre of war to the United States. By that time, Novo had basic knowledge of fermentation but lacked the further technology needed for mass production of penicillin.

At about the same time British microbiologists isolated penicillin and, by listening to the British broadcast, the company received inspiration for developing penicillin in quantity by submerged fermentation rather than by surface culture. The difference is that the fungi live in the fluid nutrient (like seaweed in the ocean) and not on the surface of the fluid only, a method which is not suited to mass production.

Besides penicillin Novo makes insulin, other pharmaceuticals and enzymes. The company is one of the world's leading producers of insulin and provides about a quarter of the world's daily requirement. It started production of insulin in 1925 and has developed new and improved insulin with which to treat diabetes.

Novo produces insulin that is derived solely from the pancreatic gland of either pigs or cattle and uses millions of the glands each year to meet the worldwide demand.

The company is researching into the manufacture of artificially produced human insulin by way of genetically manipulated bacteria. Its present procedure is to replace the one amino acid from the pigs' insulin with another amino acid which is characteristic for human insulin.

Novo exports 96 per cent of its products and provides the European market with half its requirements of insulin. The United Kingdom is an important customer. Last year the company had a turnover of 1,200m kroner.

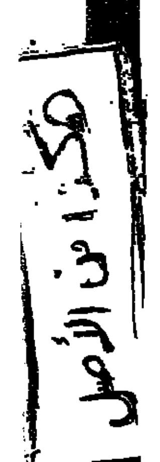
Though insulin and penicillin are two of its most important pharmaceutical products, Novo also numbers Heparin among its vital products. Heparin is used when treating thrombosis or in preventing its occurring. It is a hormone-like drug which regulates the delicate balance of blood chemistry on which the clotting mechanism depends.

It is a fast-acting agent, resulting in thrombosis if too little is given to the patient and risking haemorrhage if too much is applied. Heparin is supplied in disposable syringes containing a precise dose, thus enabling the doctor to monitor dosage and achieve the delicate balance required.

Novo products have also helped many women during the menopause. During this period the ovaries produce less of the hormones that regulate both ovulation and cyclic changes in the wall of the uterus. Novo products such as Trisequens and Estrofem have been aiming at restoring the natural balance. Some 90 per cent of women treated with these products enjoy a normal life during the menopause.

A.H.





TIMES PAST THE TIMES
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

REVOLUTIONARY STANDSTILL

Most political leaderships with an average of 69 and a faltering record would feel obliged to make at least some token gestures towards the idea of change. They might replace a man or two in their ranks, bring in some new blood, or offer a hint of new thinking in one area or another. Not so the Soviet leadership. After a weighty build-up to the party congress, after "democratic" discussion at all levels, after a relatively frank examination of the manifold problems which now beset the country, everything remains the same. The Politburo is re-elected and existing policies endorsed. Détente abroad and efficiency at home are to be pursued in spite of setbacks. Things are difficult but there is no need for new people or new ideas. That has been the basic message of the congress.

One could take this as a sign of magnificent confidence in Marx's laws of history. After all, as Mr Brezhnev said, "the revolutionary transformation of the world cannot be prevented", so why not wait in comfort? The more likely reason is to be found in the chronic immobility of the system. Those in power have no interest in relinquishing it, and nowhere else to go. Those in waiting fear they will damage their chances by pushing or plotting. The entire apparatus has an interest in preserving itself by preventing change.

Usually party congresses overcome these constraints sufficiently to give an impression of renewal. Not this time. Perhaps the leaders could not agree on new candidates. Perhaps they feel that if they set the ball of change rolling they will be unable to stop it. Perhaps they fear criticism of their policies. Whatever the reason the result is to demonstrate once again how difficult it is for the leaders of world revolution to manage change within their own system. They have missed a chance to prepare the way for a smooth transition.

This has its reassuring aspects for the outside world. It is probably better to have Mr Brezhnev earnestly pursuing détente with the United States than some untried stripling trying to prove his strength. In other ways, however, and for the Russian people themselves, there are disadvantages. The Soviet Union is now a vast limping giant, enormously strong in weaponry but inflexible in its thinking and increasingly dissatisfied with its standard of living. Its economic growth is slowing down, and it is not catching up with the West in technology. The silicon chip has scarcely been born. Over the next ten years it is going to face larger discrepancies between its ambitions and its resources. The stresses are likely to grow and it will be difficult to live with.

Just how difficult is much debated by western experts. The CIA offers the darkest prospects. It calculates that defence spending will continue to outpace economic growth, thereby taking an ever larger slice of resources over a period when oil and food will have to be imported although the capacity to earn sufficient hard currency will have dried up. Hence the Soviet leaders will be confronted by stark choices between guns or butter, internal reforms or competition for world resources.

Other experts think the Soviet Union may be able to muddle through with smaller adjustments. Almost everyone agrees, however, that problems will increase as the Soviet Union grapples with the rising cost of extracting its own raw materials, unfavourable demographic trends, the inefficiency of its system, and diminishing ability to export oil, which now brings in about half its hard currency earnings. Domestic turbulence at home or in eastern Europe, distracting adventures abroad, pressures on Gulf states (perhaps arms in return for oil) are only some of the possibilities.

Some hint from the congress that new thinking and new people were working their way up might, therefore, have been reassuring, even if the shortcomings of the Soviet Union are useful to the West in the ideological war. At very least, the prospect of a smooth transfer of power over the next few years would have been preferable to the brittle uncertainties with which we are now faced.

REASSURING AS FAR AS IT GOES

Lord Diplock's report on the interception of communications—in practice, mainly telephone tapping—is a curious document. It is only just six pages long. Its conclusion—that the procedures governing telephonic interception are satisfactory both in theory and in practice—may well be justified, but we are given no evidence on which to base our agreement or otherwise with that finding. Lord Diplock says that he has carried out random checks designed to test the efficacy of the procedures laid down, and to ensure that the safeguards provided to protect the individual's rights to privacy worked in practice. He gives us no figures. Did he check five cases at random, or fifty? If his conclusions, totally favourable to the tapping authorities, are to convince, more information is required about his methods.

His report contains not a whiff of criticism, not a hint that he found any aspect of the procedure and its application anything other than completely satisfactory. We have no reason to dispute any of his findings or to doubt the thoroughness of his investigations, but it would have assisted public confidence if he had provided rather more detail about his methods.

Lord Diplock is not to be blamed, however, for the main reservation that has to be made about his report. His terms of reference were limited to monitoring the existing procedures for seeking permission to intercept communications and the consequential acts following the grant of such authority by warrant of the Home Secretary or Scottish Secretary. He was not asked to look into the persistent allegations that a considerable amount of telephone tapping is conducted without the authority of the Home Secretary and without obtaining any other formal permission.

Much of this, of course, is carried out by private agencies using highly sophisticated electronic equipment available on the open market. But there are grounds for believing that surveillance on the part of governmental or other official bodies takes place which does not have the approval of the Home Secretary, and is therefore beyond any supervision or control. It is difficult to know how prevalent the practice is. Revelations by the New Statesman last year, a report by the Post Office Engineering Union, and Monday's Panorama programme have provided some evidence to suggest that there is substantial non-authorized tapping by official or quasi-official agencies. Much of that evidence is necessarily anecdotal, and much of it comes from persons whose veracity and motives are open to question. Nevertheless there is enough to raise a serious doubt about how much control there really is over the bugging of telephone conversations.

Lord Diplock was not required to look into that aspect of surveillance. Nor did his brief cover those intelligence agencies whose work involves the interception of international communications, and who are linked to the intelligence services of Britain's allies abroad.

It is absurd to suggest that Britain's secret services should be openly accountable. The objectives of some of the surveillance work conducted, by its nature, requires that the public should not be told that it is happening at all, let alone of its results. But there may be a great deal of unauthorized tapping about which that argument does not apply. Uneasiness persists, and Lord Diplock's report does not allay it.

DISTRESS SIGNAL NOT TO BE IGNORED

It is often and correctly said that Mrs Thatcher's Government has resulted in a greater spirit of realism in our economic, industrial and financial affairs. The critical question is whether or not the extremely stringent conditions that have created this forced spirit of realism have been overdone to the point where serious, unnecessary and irreversible damage is being done to worthwhile institutions.

This question has been put in the most tangible form in the past week by Imperial Chemical Industries. For ICI is not only by far the largest private sector industrial company in the United Kingdom. With the exception of the British-based oil companies, it is the sole British company that features in the top rankings of international capitalism.

When, therefore, last week ICI cut its final dividend for the first time since 1938, it forced on the public's attention the position in which the hard core of British industry finds itself. For ICI is not a soft, badly managed, union-dominated dinosaur of the British industrial scene. No doubt, as with any large and established institution, it has become a touch bureaucratic in certain respects. No doubt there is room for savings on overheads. ICI, however, can stand comparison with most successful large industrial companies anywhere in the world. So when ICI has to report that it has been trading at a loss for the second quarter in a row and, in a spirit of realism, has to adjust its dividend distribution downwards as a result, an event has taken place which requires the attention of government. In the continuing spirit of realism this week ICI has announced that it is ending the separate existence of its plastics and its petrochemical divisions, in order to try to save costs.

The problems that any company faces in a recession may be divided into two categories. The first are structural. Here it is clear that in fibre production and in petrochemicals and plastics ICI is suffering from the problems of over-capacity that are affecting the whole of this industry worldwide. The second category is cyclical. Here ICI is suffering, in a way that has nothing to do with managerial lack of foresight, from the quite unexpected severity and duration of the recession, from the unforeseen strength of sterling in export markets and from the continuing high levels of interest rates.

The Government is entitled to say in reply that, if ICI is in its present position unable to maintain its dividend, it should not have been prepared to settle last spring for wage awards of over 20 per cent for its manual workers. The fact remains, however, that the undoubted long-term advantages that British industry will have derived from the present recession have now in the main been achieved. The weak and the inefficient have been purged. The cost in lost production and unemployment has been far higher than even the Government would have forecast a year, or eighteen months ago. Further deliberately induced recession would produce relatively little extra advantage in return for geometrically rising industrial and social problems. Next week's Budget must lead the way to lower interest rates and gradually restored expansion.

Defence of Gulf area

From Mr William Shepherd

Sir, Your leader (March 2) questioning the Prime Minister's unbridled enthusiasm for the Rapid Deployment Force reflects what I am sure will be widespread concern. But does your criticism go far enough?

It is hard to resist the feeling that we are in danger of getting back to Suez. For the still surprisingly unpublicized truth is that Suez was probably embarked upon more to offset right-wing criticism of the economic policy of a then left-wing Conservative government than for any other single reason. The Suez adventure was limited in its aim and its dangers, which is more than can be said of the present initiative, where I foresee three grave dangers.

The most serious danger is that such a force could be used by the Soviet Union to precipitate their intervention in Middle East affairs. The procedure would be simple: they would stir up political/military unrest with the intention of provoking the use of the Rapid Deployment Force, which would in turn enable them to intervene on a pretext not very dissimilar from ours at the time of Suez. This is not the material of science fiction: it could be a deadly reality.

The second danger concerns our relationship with Europe. As one who has no great enthusiasm for the Common Market as at present structured, I am nevertheless anxious to preserve a coherent voice of Europe. That such a voice has practical value can be seen in the unanimity that has been achieved by Europe over Arab-Israeli relations. If, however, we press the "special relationship" to the point where we endorse policies which Europe finds unacceptable, we will seriously damage the effectiveness of the voice of Europe.

The third danger is real, too—and it is that we may lose the friendship of the most stable and worthwhile elements in the Middle East. Mr Heath foolishly sought to increase our military presence in the Gulf, despite the fact that all the oil companies were anxious to get rid of our military presence in order that they could conduct their business without any commital to a given regime. This policy failed because the states concerned simply would not have the British troops.

The new policy is much more dangerous, since it could affect our relationships with the whole of the Middle East and the Gulf States. Ultimately the effect might well be to reduce the amount of military cooperation which our friends in the Middle East would feel it possible to give to us.

Russia and her satellites are facing a critical fuel shortage; this inevitably increases the risks of war in the Middle East. While the West must be prepared always to defend its legitimate interests, it surely should not take any actions which might precipitate trouble in the Middle East, as well as offending its friends.

Yours sincerely,
WILLIAM SHEPHERD,
77 George Street,
Portman Square, W1.
March 2.

Earlier retirement

From Mr A. R. Beard

Sir, There are probably many men between the ages of 60 and 65 who would welcome the chance to retire, if the retirement pension were available to them.

In the light of the present unemployment figures, would it not now be a wise move for the Government to make this change, and thus make their jobs available to younger men with families to support?

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT BEARD,
Scobbiscombe Farm,
Kingston,
Kingsbridge,
South Devon.

Prospects for the Social Democrats

From Mr Clive Bingley

Sir, What is so totally mystifying about your enthusiasm for the Council for Social Democracy is that the economic illness, Mrs Thatcher's attempted cure for which you find so disagreeable, was brought on entirely by twenty years of social-democratic government—under the premierships of Mr Macmillan, Mr Wilson, Mr Heath and Mr Callaghan—not by the dotty left at all.

The present leaders of the CSD were all intimately, indeed passionately, associated with government during the period of decline. What have they now done to warrant another chance?

Yours faithfully,
CLIVE BINGLEY,
26 Addison Grove, W4.
February 28.

From Mr David Winnick, MP for Walsall North (Labour)

Sir, No one is likely to dispute the right of politicians to change their party; however, what is disturbing for the democratic process is that someone clearly elected as a candidate of a particular party should not resign his seat in the Commons once he changes over to a different organization.

I don't think there can be any doubt that those elected two years ago to the House received the votes needed to become Members of Parliament because the electorate wish to register their support for the respective party in question. Of course, a number of successful candidates received some support on a personal basis (as indeed did some unsuccessful candidates), but such votes would almost certainly have been relatively few in number. One only needs to consider instances of ex-MPs who having broken with their party stood as candidates outside the major political organizations and received derisory votes.

There is also the question of the constituency organization of an MP who defects: the activists would have been responsible for all the hard, dedicated, voluntary unpaid work needed to try and get the candidate elected. Anyone who has been involved in a parliamentary election would know full well what is involved and the hours put in, day and night, by those working basically for a political cause.

What sort of respect can they have for the former candidate who was perfectly happy and willing to have all the work undertaken on his behalf and received the benefit of electoral support because of the party label, but who refuses to resign his seat once he has made up his mind to leave the political party he stood for at the last election?

Is there not a case for some amendment to the relevant electoral legislation that would ensure that an MP elected as a candidate of a political party and who afterwards resigns from his party also has to give up his Commons seat? After all, if the MP has sufficient confidence in the policies of the organization which he has since joined, he should surely be only too willing to contest a by-election and try and convince the electorate of his new platform.

And would not such a course of action show proper respect for the electorate that sent him to Westminster under his previous affiliation and, until an electoral contest proves otherwise, presumably wishes to continue to be represented by an MP belonging to the party that received most votes in the constituency at the general election?

Yours, etc,
DAVID WINNICK,
House of Commons.

From Mr John Pringle

Sir, Your opinion that a trade union reform which was agreed to and passed by a Liberal and Social Democrat alliance would be "most unlikely to be repealed" (leader, February 28) is one main reason why many would support such an alliance. The other parties have tried and failed to stop the trade unions, and other interests, from pushing up inflation. The present Government, elected to do so, has recently been humiliatingly defeated, as everyone knows: its scalp has joined the others hanging on Joe Gormley's wall.

As the plain man sees it, such disastrous defeats for the democratic machine cannot continue indefinitely. The pretences of power always in the end have to give way to the realities, with institutions being wrenched to fit where need be. Either people and Parliament should now pass over political as well as economic power to the trade union movement to run the country as it chooses, which is apparently what the Labour Party Conference wants; or, people and Parliament must reassert their own authority which they cannot do through instruments as "discredited"—your own very just description—as the two main existing parties.

The Social Democrats and Liberals really have the ball at their feet to win with, given a modicum of luck and judgment.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
JOHN PRINGLE,
7 Home Court,
Maple Road,
Surbiton,
Surrey.
February 28.

Music in schools

From Mr P. A. Howgill

Sir, The ruling in the High Court reported in The Times of February 26, that it is illegal for a county council to charge for individual music tuition provided in schools, gives cause for the most widespread concern to all who are involved with the provision of music in education.

Music education in schools divides broadly into two categories: music which is taught in the classroom, and individual tuition to pupils of an instrument of their choice.

Classroom teaching of music is already suffering to some extent from the general cuts in expenditure that are bearing on all areas of education, but music is a very resilient subject for several reasons. Firstly, from an educational viewpoint, those councils and schools who already run a good music education programme are well aware of the direct benefits that music brings to their pupils and the spin-off benefits that can be expected in other parts of the school curriculum. At the same time, music education is generally widely appreciated by both pupils and parents, and for these reasons teachers and parents, often working through parent-teacher associations have been prepared to assist in fund-raising for musical activities in schools. The High Court ruling may make it more difficult for schools to raise money in this way, but presumably there can be no legal objection to voluntary funding activities.

The case is very different where pupils are receiving individual music tuition. This area is most often undertaken by peripatetic teachers, and these have already been the subject of cuts by some education authorities. The cuts have often taken the form of making charges or increasing charges for such individual tuition, and it is probably true to say that something like three-quarters of the individual music tuition given in schools may be subject to some charges to the parents. Suddenly, we are faced with the fact that this High Court decision has made these charges illegal, and the most obvious result of this decision is that local authorities could be tempted to cut out this form of music tuition completely.

It is essential that all interested parties should cooperate to find an answer to this very real problem as quickly as possible before the existing arrangements for musical education of pupils are completely disrupted. Any suggestions for ensuring the continuing progress of music education in this country in the face of this judgment will be received with interest and acted on where possible by the music industry organizations represented by this Federation.

Yours faithfully,
P. A. HOWGILL, Chairman,
Federation of Music Industry Organisations,
98 Greenfield Avenue,
Carpenders Park,
Watford,
Hertfordshire.
February 27.

West Indies tour questions

From Mr R. Qureshy

Sir, I read your editorial (February 27) on the selection of the English cricket team, that only the English selectors have the right to choose the players of the team. If you remember when the English team visited Pakistan last time, in the last Test—when the Pakistan selectors were considering selection of the Packer players Imran Khan, Zaheer Abbas and Majid Khan—at that time the English players all objected and refused to play if the Packer players were selected to play in the Pakistan team. Because of their refusal, these players were eventually left out.

Now how can the English selectors complain? They did the same thing on the Pakistan tour and dictated as to which players they wanted to play against.

Yours faithfully,
R. QURESHY,
52 St Gabriel's Road, NW2.
March 1.

Nationality anomalies

From Mr Michael Emerson and Mr Alistair MacDonald

Sir, Mr Ivor Stanbrook, MP, in his letter of February 19, has pointed out how the Government's recent amendment of the British Nationality Bill gives the right to pass British citizenship by descent to persons who are British by birth, registration or naturalization, but not to persons born abroad whose parents are British by birth.

We would like to illustrate the anomalies that this would cause.

In our particular cases, one of us married a British woman, while the other married a French woman. Both our families include children born in France or Belgium. The French spouse has registered as British, and therefore her children born outside Britain would have the right to pass their citizenship to the next generation, not because the father is British, but in effect because the mother was of French origin. The British-born spouse will have no such privilege, and her children will not therefore have the right to pass on British citizenship in the same circumstances.

In our view the law should at the very least allow the second generation of British born abroad to be British citizens by right, since without such a provision, the first generation born abroad will be deprived of an important aspect of their nationality, namely the right to pass on this nationality to their own children.

We also feel that it is in the UK's fundamental interests that secure and clear nationality provisions exist for British citizens who spend all or part of their careers promoting British commercial, political or cultural interests in Europe and elsewhere abroad. Today there are probably a quarter of a million British citizens on the continent, of whom less than 1 per cent are dependent on official European or international organizations. This represents a sizeable community, many of whose children and grandchildren will be particularly well qualified to promote British interests abroad in the future. An unfortunate result of this Bill, if enacted without further amendment, would certainly be to reduce the supply of British people prepared to work abroad, and, for those who nonetheless do so, to alienate in legal and other senses those of their offspring falling on the wrong side of a quirk of the law.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL EMERSON,
ALISTAIR MacDONALD,
50 rue Clément Delpierre,
1310 La Hulpe,
Belgium.
February 23.

Civil servants' sense of grievance

From the Chairman of the Association of First Division Civil Servants

Sir, Sir Max Beloff's letter of March 2 raises an important constitutional point which concerns this Association as much as it does him. He refers to the conflict of loyalties experienced by many of our members, their loyalties on the one hand to Government and country and on the other to their colleagues.

Sir Max suggests that Government and Opposition reach a common accord about what is permissible by way of industrial action in the public services. But we had a system of pay determination in the Civil Service which, if observed in practice, removed the need for industrial action in the Civil Service. It was based on principles laid down by the Priestley Royal Commission in the 1950s and was designed to keep civil servants' pay out of politics. It is Government, not civil servants, which have violated these principles of independent fact finding, fair comparison and independent arbitration in settling Civil Service pay and ignored the warning of Priestley that civil servants should not be singled out for exemplary treatment such as was handed out to Admiral Byng.

There is a very healthy assumption in the British Constitution that the Civil Service will work consistently and to the best of its ability to put into effect the policies of the elected Government. That assumption is challenged and disturbed if the Government repeatedly acts towards its servants arbitrarily, unfairly and in breach of previously agreed arrangements: and successive Governments have in recent years.

Indeed one would expect serious observers of public administration to pause and ask why members of the FDA decided by ballot, albeit by a small majority, to support the action of the Council of Civil Service Unions. Such a decision was not taken lightly. The reason was not movement of percentage points in salary settlements but a serious concern to keep the arrangements for paying civil servants out of the political arena. Our loyalty has been questioned but it is the Government that has broken agreements with its servants, suppressed pay research evidence and now unilaterally proposes to overthrow an established system of pay determination. It is these actions that have placed great strain on the loyalty of civil servants. This Association believes it is in the interests of the country, as well as the Civil Service, that a fair, understood and workable system of pay determination should exist independent and separate from the loyal relationship between HM Government and her civil servants. Until now such an agreed system did exist and provided, as the Royal Commission intended it should, the necessary buttress for the undivided loyalty of civil servants to the elected Government of the day.

If the Government honoured agreements, questions about our loyalty or talk about constitutional amendments along the lines suggested by Sir Max Beloff would be unnecessary.

Yours faithfully,
M. E. G. FOGDEN,
Association of First Division Civil Servants,
17 Northumberland Avenue, WC2.
March 3.

From Mr D. Bromley and others

Sir, We are writing in reply to the letters printed on Monday (March 2) from Sir Max Beloff and Mr P. Brookman. We are a section committee of the IPCS (Institute of Professional Civil Servants), one of the unions concerned in the probable Civil Service strike. We are working civil servants, in a small unit, in a high technology area of defence, and far from keen to take strike action. We have hitherto been inclined to accept that the code of conduct governing industrial relations in the Civil Service precludes strike action. Let us explain why we will join in strike action next Monday.

Part of that code of conduct has lain in the effective consultation and negotiation methods of Civil Service Whitleyism since the twenties and the existence of a valid arbitration procedure. On pay the Priestley Commission of 1954 laid down a principle of fair comparison, and explicitly rejected the use of Civil Service pay in setting a political lead; a possibility which at that time might have seemed to favour civil servants. The Pay Research Unit was set up as part of the fair comparisons exercise, and however much the detailed operation was uncertain and was criticized the basic principle that Civil Servants should get the same as others was not disputed.

In 1976 the Labour Government suspended the PRU system in favour of successive formulae which although a unilateral decision was part of a wage restraint policy, supposed to apply nationwide; it was also to be temporary. However, when PRU procedures resumed in 1979 its evidence showed restraints in comparable private employment to have been largely ignored. Higher reaches of management in particular had succeeded in giving themselves some 50 per cent over the pay restraint codes.

This Government has no Incomes policy but has made public expenditure its only target. It is bringing about extensive redundancy in the Civil Service. It issued in January a green paper on trade union powers. It has presided over 20 per cent inflation. It has suppressed the latest PRU reports, one can only assume because it completely conflicts its own case and assumptions. It imposes 6 per cent cash limit on Civil Service pay, a cut in real money of 14 per cent. There are no negotiations, no comparisons, no arbitration: only Mr Brookman's assertion that he hasn't paid his lads any more.

Yours faithfully,
D. BROMLEY,
R. ADAMS,
P. W. SMITH,
J. BAKER,
D. J. ELMER,
T. A. JONES,
Admiralty Compass Observatory,
Ditton Park,
Slough,
Berkshire.

From Mr Clifden R. Crockett

Sir, Sir Max Beloff (letter, March 2) suggests that civil servants who strike should be permanently barred from promotion. He has almost persuaded me to revise my decision not to take part in the proposed strike action.

Yours truly,
CLIFDEN R. CROCKETT,
Marloes,
19 The Avenue,
Dallington,
Northampton.
March 2.

Defeat on Majuba

From Colonel L. Maxwell

Sir, Our disastrous defeat on Majuba hill a hundred years ago (feature, February 28) might not have happened if General Colley had not emasculated his force of all the essential advantages of the regimental system. There was no complete British infantry regiment with him, only a hotch-potch of companies from three different battalions, without their commanding officers. No regiment under its own colonel would have accepted the ignominy of being driven from the mountain without a very hard struggle indeed.

Only nine months earlier the 66th Regiment of Foot were in disorganized retreat from the field of Maiwand in south Afghanistan, when Colonel Galbraith gathered his men around him again on the outskirts of the battlefield. Two-thirds of the men who had been in the battle-line turned and stayed with him to fight it out, although retreat would have been easy. Instead, he and they died around the regimental colours.

But on Majuba there was no battalion commander to save the day, there was no regimental honour at stake. Everyone felt free to put the blame on somebody else, and the survivors did that very thing as soon as they reached the safety of Mount Prospect Camp.

Yours faithfully,
LEIGH MAXWELL,
East Franklands,
Lewes Road,
Haywards Heath,
Sussex.
February 28.

Swoop on 'The Observer'

From Mr Richard Hall

Sir, It is preposterous for my colleague, Mr Colin Legum, to go on at such length in your columns (letter, March 2) about a hypothetical threat to the editorial independence of The Observer. His service for many years under Mr David Astor, who for more than a quarter of a century was both editor and proprietor, must have somewhat impaired his understanding of the realities of life on more normal newspapers.

Mr Legum complains that The Observer will now be tagged in the public mind as "Lonrho-owned". Your own journal may likewise be tagged as "Murdoch-owned", and the Daily Express as "Trafalgar House-owned". I doubt that the public will really imagine we are all mere subservient hacks, leaping to our typewriters when a proprietor orders us to support his financial schemes at home or abroad.

Certainly, if Mr Tiny Rowland just once covertly imposed his will on The Observer to further his other business interests, that would be far worse than the constant, undisguised political influence of an altruistic owner-editor. But is it really going to happen?

I have the singular advantage of having worked for both Mr Astor and for Mr Rowland; I was the latter's editor on the first paper he ever owned, The Times of Zambia. Mr Rowland never once interfered. Several times, we wondered if he might—and I was waiting for him to try—because the paper reported in a decidedly arm's-length way about his business activities in Zambia and adjoining countries.

Of course, it may be retorted that The Times of Zambia was small beer, and The Observer will prove more tempting for Mr Rowland.

But he has repeatedly told us that he will never try to interfere with editorial policy. To imply, as Mr Legum does, that even written guarantees from Lonrho would be worthless, and that a cumbersome structure at board level is needed to protect the journalists from Mr Rowland, ignores the fact that if a proprietor improperly exploits his position, journalists are quick to run up and down Fleet Street with the news.

A new era, as part of a much-discussed conglomerate with world-wide interests, may alarm some finer sensibilities. But nostalgia is no excuse for squalling before you are hurt.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD HALL,
The Observer,
8 St Andrew's Hill, EC4.
March 2.

Conundra

From Mr Wilson Longden

Sir, The use of fora for the plural of forum in Section 78 of the Macfarlane Report causes me to speculate as to whether this was the creation of one of the panjandra of the Department of Education and Science or merely that of one of its lesser factota.

Perhaps, when he is idly wandering round one of the London musea, or sitting in the shade of his laburna, peacefully contemplating the progress of his antirrhina, his delphinia and his nasturtia, the author might care to conjure up some more such novelties for our delectation.

Could it be that he did not actually reach the sixth-form himself? Is that the reason for the apparent antipathy to retaining in secondary schools the sixth-forms that have served us so well in the past?

Yours faithfully,
WILSON LONGDEN,
Barnfield College (Luton),
New Bedford Road,
Luton.
March 2.

Bernard Levin

Farewell, I hope, my lovely

There is a most engaging compilation, conceived and put together by Mr Stephen Pile, called *The Book of Heroic Failures*, which, as its title suggests, records not the shots which went wide of the bullseye but those which never even came out of the barrel of the gun. The book seems to have been a great success, making it probable that another edition will in time be called for; this is just as well, for in the last few days there has passed into history an achievement in the realms of failure that surely dwarfs not only anything previously recorded by Mr Pile but anything the most extravagant imagination could invent. I refer to the gentleman who was sent to prison for life after a trial in which the court was told of *seven* unsuccessful attempts he had made to murder his wife, without her noticing that anything out of the ordinary was going on.

Now on the whole, I do not usually find murder, or even attempted murder, matter for laughter, though some theatrical farces have used sudden and unnatural death to considerable and hilarious effect, notably Mr Royce Ryton's *The Unvarnished Truth*. But as I read through the prosecution's *catalogue raisonné* of the defendant's vain efforts to do away with the wife of his bosom I was seized with a wild laughter of the kind released by the best surrealist art, and by the end was helplessly hysterical at the breakfast-table.

Having first taken out £250,000 of insurance on his helpmeet's life, a circumstance which apparently failed to arouse her curiosity, let alone suspicion, our unsuccessful felon got down to work. First he put mercury, a dangerous poison if ingested, into a strawberry flan he had made for her. It fell out, however; it seems that he used too much of it—a case, if ever there was one, of over-egging the pudding.

> Two goes of mercury poisoning and two cliff-hangers having failed, our hero took to arson. While she was in bed, ill . . . he started a fire outside the bedroom door

Nothing daunted, Bluebeard then tried stuffing a mackerel with the same deadly substance (a matter, I suppose, of putting the poison in the *poisson*), but for some unaccountable reason it had no effect on the little lady. Warming to his work, he took her on holiday to Yugoslavia, where he invited her to sit on the edge of a cliff; the court was told that she had declined, prompted by some "sixth sense". I am glad it came to her rescue, though I must say that by now I should have thought a sixth sense unnecessary: one or two of the better-known five ought to have been quite sufficient to alert her to the fact that the magic had gone out of her marriage, particularly when, on their return from Yugoslavia, he repeated the cliff-suggestion, this time at Beachy Head. (What do you suppose he actually *said*? "Darling, it would be rather nice if you were to go over there and sit on the edge of the cliff, with your legs dangling over." "Why, darling?" "Oh, I don't know—I just thought you might like to get the weight off your feet.")

Two goes of mercury poisoning and two cliff-hangers having failed, our hero took to arson. While she was in bed, ill, at the matrimonial home, he started a fire outside the bedroom door, but some interfering busybody put it out before the goose (and *what* a goose) was cooked. Clearly a believer in trying anything twice, he waited a bit and again set light to their flat, but this time succeeded only in razing the place to the ground, thus inauspiciously defying the spirit, if not the letter, of that ancient Chinese proverb which says "It is not worth burning down your house simply to inconvenience your mother-in-law".

By now, even if the missus was still unaware that hubby had found new meaning in the bit about having and holding in sickness and in health till death us do part, she must at least have come to the conclusion that her footsteps were being dogged by something quite exceptional in the way of bad luck. (How do you suppose it went when she mentioned the fact to him? "Nonsense, darling, you're imagining things." "Yes, I suppose I am." "Of course you are, sweetie—why don't you go and lean out of the window?") Nor was the run of ill-fortune quite over yet: one day, when they were out in their car, he proposed that she should go and stand in the middle of the road, in order, he explained, that he might "test the car's suspension". I am not a driver and understand nothing of cars; for all I know, that is the normal and accepted method of testing a car's suspension. But even if it is, I cannot help feeling that our friend's better half might by now have cottoned on to the fact that whenever she had one of her strokes of mischance, her husband was invariably near by, and that a good case could be made out for a plea of *post hoc, propter hoc*.

It seems, however, that she had never heard of Sir Karl Popper's solution to the problem of induction; she did not, as bidden, go and stand in the middle of the road, but neither did she repair with all deliberate speed to the nearest police-station. Instead, she stood patiently at the *edge* of the *road*, while the man of the house drove the car straight at her "but at the last second veered away". (*Ah, monsieur, quelle délicatesse!*)

At this point, *he* went and confessed, which is just as well, because, having without success exhausted all other means of making away with his dear old Dutch, his next attempt would probably have involved the dropping of a fifty-megaton thermo-nuclear bomb on her, which might have had truly serious consequences—probably not including, though, the arousal of her suspicions.

There is also room for speculation about the details of the dialogue that ensued when the police arrived to break the news that they had just arrested the man of the house on some exceptionally interesting charges. ("Your husband, madame, appears to have made no fewer than seven attempts to murder you." "Nonsense—we're perfectly happy, and in any case he wouldn't hurt a fly." "Nevertheless, madame, we have his signed confession." "I tell you it's impossible; besides—no, hang on a minute, there *was* something rather odd, come to think of it, that happened the other day.")

If it's heroic failures you're after, then you will allow that they don't come in bigger sizes than this one. Mind you, the wife in the case, though she does not qualify for heroic-failure status, certainly has a right to be considered for another, older, work of reference, *The Guinness Book of Records*, in which she would, I suppose, figure under some heading such as *Most Unobservant Victim of Homicidal Husband*. "It is more honourable to be deceived", said Confucius, "than to distrust our friends." No doubt; but as this case shows, it can also be more dangerous. My advice to super-faithful Penelope, should she go to visit her husband in prison, is to treat with the greatest reserve any claim he may make to have left a large sum of money for her, wrapped in waterproof cloth, at the bottom of the crocodile pool in the London Zoo.



Black demonstrators and police clash in London on Monday.

Lucy Hodges reports on the bitter aftermath of the fire that killed 13 young people in South London in January

Why black unrest brings out the banner headlines

The British public woke up yesterday to banner headlines about black confrontation with the police on Monday's march through Central London.

"Rampage of a Mob" said the *Daily Express*, "Day the blacks ran riot in London" (*The Sun*), "17 cops hurt as thugs turn blaze protest into a terror riot" (*Daily Star*) and "When the black tide met the thin blue line . . ." (*Daily Mail*).

Was this justified? The press's coverage contrasted sharply with that on television. Both the BBC and independent television made efforts to explain the reasons for the march and for the anger. If anything the BBC news appeared to play down the violence and *Newsnight* presented a sympathetic programme giving the background to the protest.

Violence is always "a good story" and in this case it looked as though some of the violent incidents were terrifying to those involved. When that kind of bother actually occurs on the doorstep of the popular press in the middle of Fleet Street, is it surprising that the headlines appear?

Black groups are understandably angry that more effort was not made to explain the march. For some time now there has been growing discontent about the deaths of 13 young people after an all-night party at a house in New Cross Road, south London.

There is anger in the belief that the police have not done enough to find those responsible for what is agreed was a deliberate arson attack. There have been no arrests, no attempts to question extreme right-wing groups and the accounts of black witnesses about how and where the fire started in the house are not being taken as seriously as they would like.

The forensic evidence suggests the fire was begun in the centre of Mrs Rudduck's front parlour by someone inside the house. Black witnesses say it began under the window and was probably caused by something being thrown into the house.

There is anger, too, about the media and public response to the fire which happened on January 18. Immediately afterwards there were front-page stories, but after that silence. There were no messages of sympathy from the Prime Minister or the Queen.

The West Indian community points to the recent discotheque fire in Eire which killed 48 young people and brought immediate condolences from Mrs Thatcher and the Queen. The Prime Minister, they say, only responded to the black outrage in Lewisham five weeks after the blaze, and then it was in a letter to a community worker rather than to any of the parents.

Parliament has also ignored until recently what they claim to be a massacre of black youth. On Monday a large number of Labour MPs, including the Front Bench, signed an Early Day Motion which expressed sympathy with the bereaved. An amendment to that called upon the police to conclude the inquiry and deplored recent attacks on right-wing racialist groups.

Because of what they saw to be the indifference of white Britain to their tragedy, the West Indian community in south London, set up its own campaign and fact-finding inquiry. There were meetings and demonstrations, and the pent-up frustration culminated in a massive show of strength in Central London on Monday.

The size of the march (it was thought to number about 10,000) and the depth of feeling took most observers by surprise. To that extent the march must be seen as a success. It has put the Lewisham fire onto the front pages again, though not in the way the organizers would have liked. It must be said that the march would have gained little more than a few paragraphs in most newspapers without the violence, and that some of the demon- strators were no doubt aware of tha White Britain only wakes up to blac unrest when it spills out onto the street

But there were other things about th march which caused surprise. Why was allowed to be held on a weekday righ through Central London in the rush hou causing havoc to traffic? Scotland Yar refused to comment yesterday, but th answer is probably that they could n have stopped it.

Mr John Le Rose, chairman of the Ne Cross Massacre Action Committee, w quite clear about why they wanted th march on a weekday. It was deliberate chosen as a day on which blacks wou have to make sacrifices, by skipping wo or school. A march on a weekday woul also make maximum impact.

The Metropolitan police will now b drawing up a report of the event to sen to the Home Secretary. They will n doubt be telling him that they acted wi maximum restraint because of the wel known sensitivity of blacks but th mistakes were made, notably the poo estimate of the time it would take for th procession to walk nine miles.

None of this will help to solve th mystery of who was responsible for th fire, though it may help to increase pre sure on the local police. They ha mounted the largest investigation sout London has seen into the tragedy, an say they are not ruling out a raciali motivation for the attack.

It is to be hoped that Monday's even have *not simply confirmed* deeply he beliefs by the police about blacks and b blacks about the police. The signs ar that they may have. Yesterday the march organizers said the police had bee deliberately provocative at times whil police constables who were injured gav harrowing accounts to the press of wha they saw. In the end, the press ma have to take the bulk of the blame.

The subtle art of making gentle U-turns

The messy compromise which Mr Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, announced over the introduction of Citizens Band radio was in the end forced on the Government by the failure of one of his favourite techniques.

He starts out with a proposal in keeping with the fashionable party rhetoric, waits for the opposition to *it* to emerge, then backs away from the original proposal. The technique enables him to go where his instinct tells him sensible Tories should be—in the middle ground, in the heartland of one nation Conservatism. If anyone else did it, it would be called a U-turn.

The technique was first used in opposition to outflank Mrs Thatcher by committing the party to a change of policy on immigration without her knowledge. After a meeting with a group of Indian community leaders in July 1978, he promised them that a proposed register of dependants would not be limited to the Indian subcontinent as Mrs Thatcher originally intended. A week before, on BBC Television's *Panorama*, she was absolutely against extending the idea. Immediately after Mr Whitelaw's commitment to change, she remained unaware of what had become a *fait accompli*.

A similar technique was used to soften another policy commitment which was stirring up the race issue—the Nationality Bill. Protests inside and outside Parliament greeted the Bill's intention that British citizenship should be acquired automatically at birth only by children born in this country, one of whose parents must be a British citizen or who was settled here.

Having previously tried to defend what he now evidently acknowledged to be indefensible, Mr Whitelaw changed tack. An amendment to the Bill was tabled by the Government to give all children born in the United Kingdom the right to acquire British citizenship provided they could fulfil a residence qualification.

A further amendment put him under attack from his own back benches. Under it citizens by naturalization or registration were to be enabled to transmit their citizenship to their children born abroad. Accusing Mr Whitelaw of capitulating to the immigrant's lobby, Mr Ivor Stanbrook, Conservative MP for Orpington, quoted a letter sent only four days earlier by Mr Whitelaw's private secretary to Mr John Ennals, director of the United Kingdom Immigrants' Advisory Service.

"All the Bill does," it said, "is to equate citizens by naturalization or registration with citizens by descent instead of citizens by birth. This is neither illogical (neither category is actually born here) nor unreasonable."

As in the case of Citizen Band radio, Mr Whitelaw's decision, made in response to pressure, did not end the row. The messiness of the compromise over CB radio is even more apparent.

By not reaching a decision earlier, Mr Whitelaw now makes it likely that illicit broadcasting will continue on 27 MHz (amplitude modulated) which the Home Office says causes interference with television reception and emergency services. The reason is that, while Mr Whitelaw was pondering what to do and allowing pressure to build up, numbers of illegal users grew to more than quarter of a million.

Mr Whitelaw's compromise is to go for two frequencies, one at around 930MHz and another at 27MHz. The one at 27MHz will not be AM (amplitude modulated) as the users wanted, but FM (frequency modulated).

The latest example of Mr Whitelaw's gradualist approach is in plans to reduce scandalous overcrowding in prisons. He has so far moved so slowly on the issue that people have sometimes been unaware of the changes in his position.

It is, of course, a sensitive area, because, as Home Secretary, he must not be seen to be telling courts their business. Yet it is they who have the power to reduce numbers in prison (for which he is responsible) by sending fewer people there and for shorter sentences.

He has now got to the point of allowing people to realize that the Government may have to introduce legislation if numbers go on rising. If they do, and if previous form is any guide, it will soon become more clearly apparent what the Government may do, so that it can be seen to be responding sensitively to pressure. At some stage he must make his intentions explicit. It would be good from his point of view if some of the pressure came from MPs.



Mr William Whitelaw

Mr Whitelaw's so far almost imperceptible movement has avoided pot-shots from hard-line Conservative backbenchers. The party's rhetoric is in favour of tougher punishments. He has responded to that by keeping a blood curdlin promise to introduce shor sharp shocks in detentio centres, though the results hav yet to be shown to the press

It will be a tribute to M Whitelaw's political skill if h does manage a cut in priso sentencing without upsettin the courts or tough minde rank-and-file Conservatives.

Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

New words and new meanings: an occasional series by Philip Howard

All this and deloping too

Here are a few *obiter scripta*, new words and phrases that are coming into the language, or changing their meanings.

For some time supermarkets and department stores have referred to shoplifting euphemistically as shrinkage on their balance sheets. They have now had to invent a new word to describe merchandise that vanishes because it is eaten by customers as they walk around the store, before they reach the check-out. It sounds a perilous sort of stealing, likely to make one choke, and start like a guilty thing upon a fearful television eye, and ram one's trolley into a ziggurat of soup tins. The word that the supermarketmen have introduced to describe this kind of shopswallowing is simple, apt, euphemistic, and makes me smile: grazing.

I am less amused by this new example of Haigspeak from those confirmation hearings across the Atlantic for proposed members of the new administration. A prospective secretary of something or other was answering a series of searching questions. One inquisitor hypothesized as follows: "Mr ——, suppose you were in a situation where.... What would your reaction be?" The secretarial candidate replied: "I cannot answer that question, sir. It is too suppository." What an ass-hole.

Here is another malapropism, misunderstanding, or new meaning that is creeping in to the language. It comes from a recent review of a new book by a woman psychologist on the Berkeley faculty. To judge by the title of the review and the first paragraph, she seemed to advocate celibacy, which used to mean the state of living unmarried, particularly having taken a religious vow of chastity, as recommended by St Paul. However, as one read on, it turned out that her thesis is that it can be beneficial to forego sex for, say, weeks, or even months. This may or may not be potently and powerfully true, depending, I suppose, on what she means by beneficial. But she is using celibacy as a novel synonym (or metaphor) for transient chastity or abstinence. This is a new use that erodes the precision of celibacy. We shall have to see whether it fills a need, serves a purpose, and finds a place in the lexicon. I hope not.

I notice that agreeable is being increasingly used, particularly by Americans, probably in those Haigravation hearings, to mean "in agreement". This is not an innovation but the revival of a semantic form that has been obsolete or obsolescent for three centuries. The primary meaning of agreeable today is pleasant. The old meaning of "agreeing with" is flourishing again, as teasels spring up after centuries when old earth is turned, in such phrases as: "If you are agreeable, we shall go to the union meeting; or, alternatively, perhaps not."

Finally, in this Balaam basket of *obiter scripta*, I find not so much a new word as a non-word. It is "delope". It means, I think, deliberately to fire one's pistol wide in a duel; the sort of romantic but imprudent thing that heroes of Regency bodice-tuggers do. George Macdonald Fraser used it in his first Flashman book, and received various letters demanding to know its origin. He could not find it. I cannot find it.

So where did George come across it? To the best of his recollection it was in one of Georgette Heyer's Regency romances, but he cannot remember which one. Antonia Byatt, who is immensely well-read in Heyer as in everything else, at once knew the meaning of delope. Georgette Heyer was so meticulous about her period detail and language that it must be a genuine word. George has a suspicion that it was also used by Rafael Sabatini, but is not certain. Anyway, *there* you are; there it is. Delope, anyone?

LONDON DIARY

So what's in a name?

Now that the Democratic Dozen have resigned the Labour whip and voiced their disaffection with Bennery, Footling, and Thatcherism, I anxiously await signs of more positive and constructive moves towards building the promised new force in British politics.

What they need now is a manifesto and a name. I can offer help with the latter, thanks to my devoted readers.

Many think they should be called the Limehouse Blues, but whether you view them as neo-Conservatives depends upon where you are standing at the time. Walter Butterworth of Rickmansworth offers a selection: New Liberal Party, New Not-Very-Liberal Party, Nearly-New Labour Party, and more seriously, PR Party, on the ground that proportional representation is its only real hope of success.

I think we can do better. As it is an embryo movement on the verge of birth, how about the In-Labour Party? Or, as it is still at the experimental stage, the Laboratory Party, as suggested by M. J. Findlay of Haverfordwest.

A. P. Thirlwall of Canterbury is not, I suspect, a supporter, to suggest Democratic Independent Empiricists (DIE for short). Nor is the reader who suggested the Skiers, for the party to lead Britain downhill under control.

No, they need something pithier. Gerald Harris of London W11 wants to name them Woy's Toy, and to give them the campaigning slogan "Where the elite meet the effete". If the Tribune Group wish to pelt them with that rotten tomato, there will be no charge.

Andrew Grant of Melrose offers The Lads (Liberal and Democratic Socialists) for those who support Woy's Toy, and The Cads (Centre and Democratic Socialists) for those who do not. Those who join The Lads would be known as Fads (For a Democratic Socialism), and when they became disillusioned and left again they would be Passing Fads.

But my money goes on the name put forward by Robert Seeds, Christopher Place and a reader signing himself I. N. White-Hall; the Social Democratic Alliance. This is brief, sharp and to the point but, most importantly, it can be shortened to So Dem All.

Here, then, is a world exclusive: the first publication of the new party's replacement for *The Red Flag*, their battle hymn to be sung at party conferences to a familiar wartime air:

So Dem All, So Dem All,
Do Lib, Lab and Tories appal?
It's polarization that's
wrecking the nation,
So join us and sing So Dem
All.

Cross fire

There seems to be little love lost between Labour members of the European Parliament and the hard-bitten party veterans back at the Commons. This I deduce from a recent sharp and unparliamentary exchange of views between Ken Collins, a former East Kilbride councillor and now deputy leader of the Labour group in Europe, and Willie Hamilton, the republican sniper for Central Fife.

Lately Hamilton has been directing his fire at the lavish junketing undertaken by Strasbourg MPs, such as the visit by 36 of them to South America which cost the Euro-taxpayer £250,000.

Collins observed that Hamilton had put down a 10-minute rule Bill evidently aimed at curbing Euro-MPs' expenses. So he wrote asking what Hamilton had done to cut spending when, as a Euro-MP in the days before direct elections, he had been a member of the budgets committee responsible for drawing up the rules.

"I assume that you will be happy to provide this information", wrote Collins. He assumed wrongly.

"Thanks for your letter", responded the Scourge of Buck House. "Now you are firmly on the gargantuan gravy train, don't pretend you're not enjoying every minute. So cut out the cant and humbug. Yours sincerely."

To which Collins retorted: "Dear Comrade Hamilton, it is a pity that your years in the House of Commons have not taught you the difference between political debate and downright nastiness.

"It seems to me that humbug is not a quality that is confined to Members of the European Parliament and I note that you have been unable to supply me with any of the information that I requested. Perhaps the directly elected Parliament is therefore an improvement on the patronage system which preceded it."

Comrade Hamilton has let the matter rest there, presumably not wishing to abuse the free postage facility which Commons MPs enjoy.

Officer material

After the failure of the Spanish military coup, I have a suspicion that something similar is being cooked up here, and that prospective members of the junta are already being trained at Sandhurst.

Officer cadet William Morley, who is clearly being groomed as Minister of Information and Propaganda, rang me breathlessly from a Camberley call-box yesterday to say that he had been set an initiative test to secure the signature of the manager of Fulham Football Club, travel as far as he could in 18 hours without paying (he reached Edinburgh), and have the cryptic message: "To CSM RoCo, join me for a bottle of whisky and a plate of mushrooms" published in *The Times*.

Naturally I rang his commanding officer at once and told him plainly that I refused to assist the junta in their devious plans.

Double fixture

These are tricky times for a Minister of what we still like to call Sport. After the Caribbean hurricane that has blown this way over *l'affaire* Jackman, poor Hector Monro is still undecided about whether he ought to be seen at Murrayfield on March 21 when Scotland play Ireland, who have accepted an invitation to tour South Africa.



I can report, however, that the former President of the Scottish Rugby Union, unlike his unlucky Environment Department colleagues, Michael Heseltine and Tom King, has been spared attendance at the Conservative Party local government conference this Saturday. He will be in his constituency which means, I trust, that he will be glued to a television set watching Ireland play England in Dublin.

The conference date was presumably sanctioned by King as minister responsible for local government. Being a jolly fellow and a sportsman, I cannot imagine how he got his priorities so wrong.

Home hint

Bernard Dix, the militant assistant general secretary of the National Union of Public Employees, is set to take over the seat on Labour's National Executive Committee vacated by Tom Bradley, MP, who has joined the social democrats. The intriguing question is which of the NEC's influential subcommittees he will be allowed to sit on.

Bradley sat on the important home, international and organization committees, but custom dictates that a newcomer serves his time on less vital councils until he has earned his spurs and learned how to cope with the flood of documents that pours from the party headquarters duplicating machine.

Perhaps Dix would welcome a bit of advice from a seasoned NEC-watcher. Normally newcomers list the committees they would like to sit on; I suggest Dix puts forward only one, say the key home policy committee.

Ron Hayward, the party's general secretary, would find it difficult to refuse him. Mrs Margaret Beckett, who was elected only last October, did precisely that and got what she wanted. But then she knows her way around the party labyrinth: she is a former researcher in the home policy department.

I enjoyed the ad on the back page of The Times *yesterday offering travellers the chance to "Fly around the world from only £495 return". It was placed, not by the Flat Earth Society, but by a West End travel agent.*

Alan Hamilton

ENERGY FUTURES

OIL

GAS

Jonathan Williams

Some time in the next century our energy could be provided by technologies which have yet to be properly proved even in the laboratory. Fusion power could take over from the nuclear fission reactors of today, providing heat to drive the steam turbines of electrical generation by the combining, instead of splitting, of atoms.

Benign energy sources could proliferate. Every house could be built to take the maximum advantage of the sun, with south-facing windows, advanced insulation and solar panels for partial space and water heating. Clusters of giant windmills could be adding electricity to the national grid. Remote villages could have windmills of their own. Nodding platforms could lift to the waves which every day dissipate on Britain's shores sufficient power, if it could all be harnessed, to supply all the country's needs.

Photovoltaic cells, now used in power satellites in space, could become commonplace, and oil from shales, tar sands, and even coal, could, if more expensive than today, still be available at a cost which allowed the continuation of personal and public transport we have all come to expect. Most forecasters are much less worried about what happens after 2020 than they are about the transition before it.

And that is not just because 40 years hence seems so far into the future. The technologies to provide the world's energy then are already available. Even if fusion and photovoltaics failed to become commercial propositions, a steady increase of thermal nuclear, fast breeder, wave, wind, tidal power and non-conventional sources of oil and gas would meet requirements.

The problem is achieving that steady increase. The true message of the 1978-80 oil price crisis was that the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries would never again increase its production and the industrialized West would be faced with meeting its energy demand in other ways. In the two decades to 1980, two thirds of energy demand had been met by growth in oil output. From now on economic growth will have to become both less energy-dependent and less dependent on imported oil.

Recession throughout the West has allowed, so far at least, yet another oil price increase as a result of the Iran-Iraq war. Energy consumption in Britain, which is much better off than most of the West for energy resources, was down 6 per cent in 1980 and demand continues to fall yet the energy conservation message does seem to be going home. The Conservative administration has used the rise in oil prices and the parallel increase in international prices for natural gas to raise sharply the cost of gas to both industrial and domestic consumers.

So successful has the plan been to charge the "market rate" for energy that it has raised howls of protest from industry, complaining that costs in Britain were now out of step with those in competitor countries. Waste, nevertheless, is being curtailed all the time.

But the drop in demand has brought its own problems. Both the electricity authorities and the National Coal Board have found reduced sales playing havoc with their cash flows, creating difficulties in keeping within the financial targets set by government. The investment programmes of both have been in danger. Paradoxically, while the Gas Corporation was at one time asking high prices to deter demand, it seemed that the electricity authorities might be forced to raise prices because demand had fallen.

Short term fluctuations in markets continuously play havoc with planning for the long term. Forecasts of energy demand in Britain continue to be cut, while the presence of North Sea oil and gas detracts from the urgency to find and invest in alternatives felt by other nations.

In a deliberately provocative lecture recently, Professor Ian Fells, a respected energy expert from Newcastle University, questioned whether Britain really had an energy policy. In principle it does. It is to rely on increased conservation, coal and nuclear power to replace oil and gas as production, but all three legs of this policy have been under attack.

The strategy designed to bring the National Coal Board to profitability in 1983-4, without the help of operating grants, is in tatters while an all-party select committee has renewed doubts over the wisdom of proceeding with the £15,000m nuclear programme announced only 15 months ago.

Development of the North Sea has proceeded slower than forecast, but then oil consumption has shrunk too, bringing net self-sufficiency at a much lower rate of output than expected. The first decision under the Government's stated depletion policy, that net self-sufficiency be maintained for as long as possible, has been taken by delaying for two years the start of production on the British National Oil Corporation's Clyde field. But that decision was far from simple and the way in which it was reached, with the Treasury battling for a longer delay for reasons connected with the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement, was an indication of how it was easily possible for matters of energy policy to become subservient to other government aims.

There can be no doubt that the new supplementary petroleum revenue tax of 20 per cent, to be levied on North Sea fields from April 1, will take money out of the sector which would otherwise have been used for new developments. It is not possible to take £1,000m out of the companies' revenues without it having some effect. It might not be a bad thing if a slowing of the pace of development could lead to an alignment with depletion policy. The need for a large exploration programme to keep production up through the 1990s remains however.

The unfortunate part of energy planning is that the lead times are so long and the forecasts so uncertain that mistakes may not show up until two or even three parliaments after the decision was taken.

The latest projections of demand made by the Department of Energy were published in 1979 but were out of date almost as soon as they were written. The price of oil was expected to reach $30 a barrel (in 1977 prices) by the end of the century. Most of that increase has already taken place, and the economic growth assumptions of 2 per cent for a low case and 3 per cent for a higher case, look increasingly questionable.

The National Coal Board was strongly attacked by expert witnesses called by protesters against its planned new coal mine in the Vale of Belvoir in north-east Leicestershire, on the ground that the nation would not need the production within the timescale estimated by the board. In fact the coal industry has reversed its long time decline in deep output just as demand has dropped.

Domestic coal production is being undercut by imports, but the more new pits it brings into production the more of the older, uneconomic 10 per cent of production, losing £190m a year, it would be able to close. Miners are naturally troubled over allowing a reduction in output and numbers employed before new pits are working. The intention of the Plan for Coal of 1974 was to raise output. For years the electricity authorities have been as concerned at the NCB's ability to deliver the coal they promised as they have at being obliged to buy more than they needed. Everyone's worry is of a profusion of energy supply and a lack of demand.

Should, therefore, the coal and nuclear programmes be cut? Projections of demand provided by the Department of Energy to the inspector in the Vale of Belvoir inquiry showed that if economic growth were cut to only 1 per cent a year, total demand for coal would be only 110 million tonnes in 1990 and 115 million tonnes in 2000. That is less than is being sold now.

The Energy Select Committee, in its report on the nuclear power programme, questioned both whether the electricity authorities' projection of a 2½ per cent a year economic growth by 2000 would materialize and whether electricity demand would rise at 70 per cent of the economic growth rate.

What must be decided is when a short-term fluctuation has become a long-term trend. Programmes, whether they be nuclear coal, or oil and gas, have a habit of slipping naturally, particularly if a lack of demand is straining cash. The nuclear power programme has slipped by at least a year because of a delay in producing final designs, and the coal programme has slipped badly through planning delays and over-optimistic estimates of the effects of new investment in oil pits. Uneconomic production can be subsidized for a time, but subsidy is never a successful way of achieving long-term growth. If the coal industry does not eventually stand on its own feet, it will shrink.

The greatest single energy saver in Britain could be harnessing waste heat from power stations, but the problem where best to invest, is not easily solved, and political difficulties line any route to the future.

Nicholas Hirst
Energy Correspondent

Versatile source of power

Deep mining should remain economic

Energy economists describe coal as the "swing" fuel of the future. It is destined to take over from oil as the prime internationally-traded energy source. It is more flexible, more versatile than nuclear power and can act as a substitute for oil, as a feedstock for petrochemicals, as a source of heat, for the generation of electric power or synthetic petrol.

The World Coal Study, WOCOL, directed by Professor Carroll Wilson of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, in which the National Coal Board took part, estimated that coal would have to supply between one half and two thirds of the additional energy required by the world during the next 20 years.

To achieve this means that production would have to increase between two and a half and three times, and world trade in steam coal, used for most purposes other than steel making, would have to grow between 10 and 15 times. One of the big problems identified by the study was that over the next few years demand for coal was likely to be slack, but the basic services of ports, railways and tankers required to ship it would have to be under construction.

At the summit meeting of heads of state of the seven leading economic powers in Venice last June, political will was put behind the need to increase coal trade. As part of their declaration on reducing oil imports they agreed to double coal production by 1990, a target which most forecasters believed was obtainable only by 2000, and then only with considerable difficulty.

International coal trade, however, is already picking up, and the bottlenecks predicted in the WOCOL report are already occurring. Congestion in ports in the United States and Australia has cut the deliveries planned under contract to the Central Electricity Generating Board in Britain. Production capacity in the United States, however, remains way above demand.

The problems that an increased international trade in coal can provide for Britain are also rapidly becoming obvious. Imported coal can be landed at £10 a tonne less than is possible with native production or even more cheaply.

Production in western United States and Australia is from large open-cast pits mined by huge drag lines. The deep mines in Britain can never hope to compete on direct costs, but taking account of added freight cost and the tendency of coal prices to follow oil prices upwards, deep-mined coal in Britain should still remain an economic proposition.

But to do so it must reduce the number of high-cost old mines which are damaging its financial performance. The difficulties of doing that have become all too apparent with the collapse of the Government's strategy to force an acceleration of pit closures.

Since 1974 successive British governments have been committed to expansion of deep-mined output of coal in Britain. This was intended to generate 40 million tonnes of new capacity at both old and new pits by the mid-1980s and to raise opencast output to 15 million tonnes. Originally this was expected to bring production back to about 155 million tonnes about 1985, after years of gradual decline during the 1950s and early 1970s. Looking further ahead, new and replacement capacity of about four million tonnes a year would create up to 170 million tonnes by 2000.

The programme has slipped badly. Productivity at the coal face has improved dramatically recently, as the [illegible] investment programme established seven years ago has begun to pay off, and 1979-80 saw the first improvement in deep-mined output (excepting the effect of strikes) since 1968. But of the 40 million tonnes of new capacity planned for 1985, none has so far come from new mines.

Ministers in the Department of Energy hoped that the effects of the recession and the constraints imposed by its Coal Act of 1980 would force the NCB to close uneconomic pits and concentrate its efforts on new capacity.

But it is understandable that both the miners and the coal board should be nervous of allowing their output to fall. Markets once lost, particularly to imported coal, may never be regained. The Government's plan in the Coal Act was to force the industry to be competitive. An opposing view would be that the security gained from an indigenous source of supply, even at a slightly higher cost than that obtainable from imports, was worth the price.

In the long term, however, the British coal industry will have to prove internationally competitive if it is to grow. Governments will always be reluctant to provide subsidies, and a subsidized industry tends not to lead to the conditions for growth.

The miners and the coal board, nevertheless, have been hit by a temporary fall in demand. The coal industry is still in the process of change, from being run down to feeling the full effects of new investment, and if it is to expand output, temporary subsidies may be no bad thing.

Much will depend on the growth of demand from industry, from the need for synthetic fuels to replace oil and gas and from electricity generation. If electricity demand grows fairly slowly and the Government continues with 15,000 MW of new nuclear capacity over the decade from 1982, demand for coal for electricity generation will be static at best. Growth in industry may depend on the willingness of government to subsidize oil conversion programmes, while the need for synthetics will depend both on the level of discoveries in the North Sea and the willingness of the Norwegians to allow their gas to be delivered to Britain.

But it is not safe at the moment to assume anything except that coal's importance in Britain's energy needs is likely to increase.

N.H.



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

March 3: The Queen held an Investiture at Buckingham Palace this morning.

The Right Hon Margaret Thatcher, MP (Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury) had an audience of Her Majesty this evening.

The Duke of Edinburgh arrived at Glasgow Central Station in the Royal Train this morning and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for the City of Glasgow (Mr Michael Kelly, the Right Hon Lord Provost).

His Royal Highness afterwards opened and toured the Careers for the 1980's exhibition at the Kelvin Hall.

This afternoon The Duke of Edinburgh visited the Tenant Factory Unit at Maryhill and the New Venture Workshop and later dined with the Members of the 1970 Club at Pollock House, Glasgow.

Major John Cargin was in attendance.

The Prince of Wales, Colonel-in-Chief, The Cheshire Regiment, this morning at Buckingham Palace received Lieutenant-Colonel A. J. MacG. Percival upon his relinquishing command of the 1st Battalion and Lieutenant-Colonel A. De P. Gauvain upon assuming command.

His Royal Highness, Colonel-in-Chief, the 2nd King Edward VII's Own Gurkha Rifles (The Sirmoor Rifles) received Lieutenant-Colonel P. R. Duffell upon his relinquishing command of the 1st Battalion and Lieutenant-Colonel P. A. Little upon assuming command.

The Queen was represented by the Lord Penny at the Memorial Service for the Right Hon Malcolm MacDonald which was held in Westminster Abbey today.

The Lady Susan Hussey has succeeded Mrs John Dugdale as Lady in Waiting to Her Majesty.

CLARENCE HOUSE

March 3: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother this morning visited the Household Cavalry Regiment at Hyde Park Barracks.

The Lady Grimthorpe, Captain Alastair Aird and Captain Ashe Windham were in attendance.

Her Majesty was represented by Sir Martin Gilliat at the Memorial Service for the Right Hon Malcolm MacDonald which was held in Westminster Abbey today.

KENSINGTON PALACE

March 3: The Duchess of Gloucester this morning opened Downend Day Centre, Downend, Bristol, and later, as President, visited Royal School for Daughters of Officers of the Army, Bath.

Her Royal Highness travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

Mrs Michael Wigley was in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh will visit Merseyside on March 13.

Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester will attend the awards ceremony of Derby Lonsdale College, in the Assembly Rooms, Derby, on March 10.

The Duchess of Gloucester will attend a preview of the *Daily Mail* Ideal Home Exhibition at Earls Court, London, on March 9.

The Duke and Duchess of Kent will attend a charity concert given by the London Philharmonic Orchestra in Leeds on April 6.

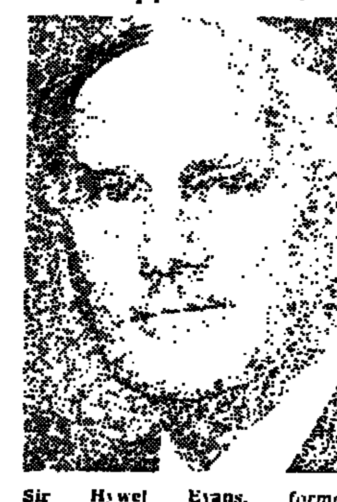
Princess Alexandra will be present at the reception being given for the preview of an exhibition arranged by the Thames Heritage Trust at Bentalls, Kingston upon Thames, on April 9.

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Viscount Amory will be held on Tuesday, March 10, in St Paul's Cathedral at 11.30 am.

Birthdays today

Mr Basil Boothroyd, 71; Sir Arthur Bryan, 58; Professor H. J. Eysenck, 65; Miss Joan Greenwood, 60; Sir Geoffrey Jackson, 66; Sir Ralph Millais, 76; Mr Patrick Moore, 58; Colonel Sir John Carew Pole, 79; Mr Alan Sillitoe, 53; Dame Albertine Winner, 74.

Latest appointments



Sir Hywel Evans, former Permanent Secretary at the Welsh Office, who is to be chairman of the Welsh Arts Council from April 1 in succession to the Marchioness of Anglesey on his appointment as a member of the Arts Council of Great Britain.

The Rev Ivan Bailey, vicar of Cringleford, Norfolk, to be religious adviser to Anglia Television.

Other appointments include:

Mr Robert Brash to be Ambassador to Indonesia in succession to Mr T. J. O'Brien, who will be retiring from the Diplomatic Service.

Major-General M. J. Tomlinson to be Director Royal Artillery from May 27 in succession to Major-General T. S. C. Streatfield.

Brigadier William Findlay to be Colonel 5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards from March 1 in succession to General Sir Cecil Blacker.

Dr G. Bennett to be honorary consultant in aviation medicine to the Army from February 1.

Dr R. N. T. Thin to be honorary consultant in genito-urinary medicine to the Army from February 1.

Professor J. R. Tighe to be honorary consultant in histopathology to the Army from October 1.

Gordon Boys' School

The Lord Mayor, vice-president, ex-officio, of the Gordon Boys' School, West End, Woking, Surrey, accompanied by Mr Sheriff David Inglefield, visited the school yesterday and was received by General Sir Charles Richardson, chairman of the foundation committee, and Mr Michael Kirk, headmaster.

Forthcoming marriages

Sir Glenn Hickman, Bt, and Miss H. M. E. Moffett

The engagement is announced between Richard Glenn, only son of the late Sir Howard Hickman, Bt, and Lady Hickman, of Twin Cottage, Radlett, Hertfordshire, and Heather Mary Elizabeth, elder daughter of Dr W. J. Moffett and the late Dr G. E. Moffett, of Westlecot Manor, Swindon, Wiltshire.

Dr C. J. Best and Dr P. T. Clarke

The engagement is announced between Crispin, son of the late Mr Samuel Best and Mrs Jennifer Best, of Kings House, Powerstock, Dorset, and Patricia, youngest daughter of Dr and Mrs J. A. Clarke, of 22 Copse Hill, Wimbledon, SW20.

Mr S. G. Callaghan and Miss G. M. Sessions

The engagement is announced between Simon, only son of Rear-Admiral Desmond Callaghan, CB, and Mrs Callaghan, of Bourne End, Buckinghamshire, and Gabrielle, second daughter of Mrs K. Sessions and the late Dominic Sessions, of Maidenhead, Berkshire.

Mr W. R. Geidt and Miss M. E. Elgood

The engagement is announced between William Robert, younger son of the late Dr D. W. Geidt, of Exmouth, Devon, and Mrs M. C. Geidt, of Sparsholt, Hampshire, and Mary Elizabeth, daughter of Dr and Mrs F. R. M. Elgood, of Castle Moat House, Drury Lane, Lincoln.

Mr J. W. Johnstone and Miss A. M. S. Harkess

The engagement is announced between John, only son of the late Mr Andrew Johnstone and Mrs Johnstone, of Bonshaw Mains, Kirtlebridge, Lockerbie, Dumfriesshire, and Alison, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. W. Harkess, of Orion, Southern Cross Drive, Constantia, Cape, South Africa.

Mr D. J. Goddard and Miss D. E. Warner

The engagement is announced between David, younger son of Mr and Mrs Stanley Goddard, of Brentford, Middlesex, and Darrell, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Max Warner, of Tettenhall Wood, Wolverhampton.

Mr R. S. Pierson and Miss D. K. Perkins

The engagement is announced between Robert Stevenson, elder son of Mr and Mrs R. W. Pierson, 24 Witches Lane, Sevenoaks, and Deborah Kay, daughter of Mr and Mrs David Perkins, 6 Eyot Gardens, W6 9TN.

Mr S. G. Richards and Miss S. S. Fithen

The engagement is announced between Stewart, son of Mrs G. M. Richards and the late Mr G. A. Richards, of Leicester, and Siân, daughter of Air Commodore and Mrs G. Fithen, of Dobbins, Old Weston, Huntingdon.

Mr C. C. Turner and Miss S. J. Maggs

The engagement is announced between Christopher Clifford, son of Mr J. Turner, of Sonning, Berkshire, and Mrs E. Turner, of Knutsford, Cheshire, and Susan Jane, daughter of Dr and Mrs R. F. Maggs, of Cookley Green, Henley, Oxfordshire.

Marriages

Colonel J. C. Cockburn and Lady Jessel

The marriage took place in London on March 3, 1981, between Colonel J. C. Cockburn, (Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders retired) and Lady Jessel, widow of Sir Richard Jessel.

Mr C. A. L. Brooks and Miss S. E. Lancaster

The marriage took place quietly in Las Vegas on February 23 between Mr Christopher A. Lefroy Brooks, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Donal Brooks, of Lawn Road, London, NW3, and Miss Sarah Elizabeth Lancaster, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs John Lancaster, of Ardcarne, Kilbride, co Wicklow, Republic of Ireland.

Luncheons

West India Committee

The West India Committee gave a luncheon yesterday at the Hotel Inter-Continental for the Hon Nicholas Ridley, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs. Mr Ray Burman, chairman of the Committee, presided. The High Commissioners for the Bahamas, Dominica, Guyana, and Trinidad and Tobago were among those present.

Westminster Chamber of Commerce

Lord Carrington was the guest of honour and principal speaker at a luncheon given by the Westminster Chamber of Commerce at the Hotel Inter-Continental yesterday. The other speakers were Mr John Lindesay-Bethune, chairman of the chamber, and Lord Craigton, president.

GLC

The chairman of the GLC was host at a council day luncheon held yesterday at County Hall. The guests included:

The Duke of Wellington, Rear-Admiral J. H. Carlill, Major-General Sir Gerald Duke, Mr Marius Goring, Sir Peter Hall, Commander J. E. Johnson, Mr C. B. Longbottom and Sir Jeremy Morse.

Middlesex County Association

The Lord Mayor of Westminster, accompanied by the Lady Mayoress, was the guest speaker at the annual spring luncheon of the Middlesex County Association held yesterday at Ealing Catering College. The Hon Ewen E. S. Montagu, QC, president of the association, and Mrs Montagu, and Mr Ronald Politeyan, chairman, and Mrs Politeyan, welcomed the guests, who included the Mayor of Ealing.

Reception

Treloar Trust

The Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress, accompanied by the Sheriffs and their ladies, attended a reception given by Lieutenant-General Sir William Pike, Chairman of the Treloar Trust, and a film show held in aid of the Lord Mayor Treloar College for the education and care of disabled boys and girls, at the Mansion House yesterday. The Earl and Countess of Snowdon were among those present.

Dinners

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain

The Archbishop of Canterbury was the principal guest and speaker at a dinner given by the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain yesterday at 1 Lambeth High Street. Mr D. N. Sharpe, president, was in the chair and Mr J. C. Bloomfield also spoke. Others present included:

Lord Collison, Sir Gordon and Lady Willmer, Mr Gordon Oakes, MP, Sir Patrick Nairne, Dr Gerard Vaughan, MP, Miss E. M. Foley, Dr Brian Mawhinney, MP, Mr Tom Benyon, MP, Mr Jack Aspinwall, MP, Dr Brian Wills, Mr Graham Calder, Mr Charles Scanlan, Mr George Bunton, Mr and Mrs Joseph Wright, Miss Christine Doyle, Mrs B. Davidson and Professor Wayne Kradjan.

Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors

The Lord Mayor of Westminster was present at the annual dinner of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors held last night at Grosvenor House. Mr J. N. C. James, president, was in the chair and the other speakers were the Secretary of State for the Home Department, the Dean of Guildford and Mr Leslie Austin-Crowe. Others present included:

The High Commissioners for New Zealand and Australia, the Duke of Westminster, the chairman of the GLC and Mr John Stanley, MP.

East European Trade Council

Lord Shackleton, Chairman of the East European Trade Council, presided at a dinner given by the council at Quaglino's yesterday in honour of Mr A. Margaritescu, leader of the Romanian team at the eighth meeting of the United Kingdom-Romanian Joint Commission. The Romanian Ambassador and Mr Gavin Dick, leader of the British team, were among those present.

Mount St Mary's College

The annual dinner of the London Old Mountaineers was held at the Law Society's Hall yesterday. The guests included Lord Justice Lawton, the Provincial of the Society of Jesus, the Headmaster of Worth School and the Rector and Headmaster of Mount St Mary's College.

Latest wills

Johnny Owen leaves £45,189

Mr John Richard Owen, of Merthyr Tydfil, Mid Glamorgan, the British, European and Commonwealth bantamweight boxing champion, who died in Los Angeles from injuries sustained in his challenge for the world title, left estate valued at £45,189 net. He left it to his parents.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid):

Bainsmith, Mr Bruce Faed, of St Ives, Cornwall .. £149,825
Conroy, Mr Anthony, of Bournemouth £274,101
Dale, Mr Denis Elmer, of Catford, London £251,824
Davis, Mr Robert, of Stanford Dingley, near Reading £138,791
Dickinson, Mrs Elizabeth, of Maidenhead, Berkshire .. £235,976
Fredenham, Miss Evelyn Ann, of Finchley, London .. £263,747
Nicoll, Sir John Fearns, of Putney Heath, London, Governor of Singapore from 1952 to 1955 £40,845
Sykes, Mr Charles Percival, of Beverley, Humberside, retired industrial transport manager £154,620
Weller, Mr Rowland Sidney, of Cobham, Surrey .. £247,385

Bishop to take part in Ridgeway walk

The Bishop of St Albans, the Right Rev John Taylor is to take part in a 90-mile sponsored walk along the Ridgeway with a group of young people.

They are aiming to raise money for a St Albans church project by walking from Wiltshire to Ivinghoe Beacon in Buckinghamshire, along the ancient track. The walk is due to start on May 23 and end on May 28, Ascension Day.

At the end of the walk, there will be a welcoming ceremony for the bishop, followed by an act of worship on the beacon.

Correction

Princess Grace of Monaco is to appear at the Goldsmiths' Hall, London, next Monday, not Tuesday as stated in a report yesterday.

English National Opera gets £4.5m

By Our Music Reporter

The English National Opera have received a grant of £4.5m for 1981-82 from the Arts Council, an increase of 13.2 per cent on the grant for their London work in the current financial year. The company said that after all the warnings about cuts they were very pleased with the amount.

Nevertheless, Lord Harewood, its managing director, said they were not very confident about the financial future. He felt the subscription scheme launched this season had "got off to a respectable start" but it would take three years before they knew whether it was really working.

Attendances during the current season have been on average 78 per cent of the capacity of the London Coliseum, the same as last season. Under the subscription scheme many tickets are being sold at a discount, so the company needs to increase sales substantially to make the scheme worthwhile.

Mr David Fletcher, the finance director, said there had been a bad patch earlier in the season but ticket sales had picked up and they had managed to come out almost "on budget."

The most popular operas this season have been *Madame Butterfly* (97 per cent capacity), *La Boheme* (94), *Boris Godunov* and *Aida* (90) and *Romeo and Juliet* (87). The least popular have been *The Coronation of Poppea* (52), *The Turn of the Screw* (53) and *Count Ory* (59).

Seat prices for the 1981-82 season will be about 15 per cent higher than for the present season. The top price on weekdays will be £11.90 instead of £10.30, and on Saturdays it will be £12.90 instead of £11.30. There will be special prices for the new production of Wagner's *Tristan und Isolde* in August, with a maximum of £16.90.



Miss Margaret Lockwood, the actress, with her three grandchildren at Buckingham Palace after she received the insignia of the OBE.

Memorial service

Mr M. MacDonald, OM

The Queen was represented by Lord Penny at a service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Mr Malcolm MacDonald, OM, held in Westminster Abbey yesterday. Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother was represented by Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Martin Gilliat. The Dean of Westminster officiated, assisted by the Rev Alan Luff, precentor and sacrist. Mr Charles Njonjo, representing the President of Kenya, read the lesson and Lord Home of the Hirsel read from the address to the Congregation of Durham University by Malcolm MacDonald on the occasion of his installation as chancellor in 1970. The Secretary-General of the Commonwealth gave an address and Pipe Major David Duncan played a lament. The Rev Charles Taylor, Canon Trevor Beeson, Canon Sebastian Charles and Lord Redcliffe-Maud, High Bailiff of Westminster, were robed and in the sanctuary.

The President of Uganda was represented by the High Commissioner for Uganda, the Life President of Malawi by the High Commissioner for Malawi and the Sultan of Brunei and the ex-Sultan of Brunei by Sir Dennis White. The Speaker and the leader of HM Opposition and Mrs Foot attended. The Hon Douglas Hurd, MP, represented HM Government, Lord Gladwyn represented the leader of the Liberal Party and Sir Edward Youde represented the Diplomatic Service. Among others present were:

Mrs MacDonald (widow), Miss Fiona MacDonald (daughter), Mr and Mrs J McDougall (step-son-in-law and step-daughter), Mr W. Rowley (step-son), Mr and Mrs Alister MacDonald (brother and sister-in-law), Dr and Mrs A. MacKinnon (brother-in-law and sister), Mrs S Lochhead (sister), Mrs L. Middleton, Mrs J. Megson, Mrs B. Clements, Mr Richard MacDonald, Mr and Mrs Kelvin MacDonald, Miss Ishbel and Miss Alison Lochhead, Mrs M. Hodkin, Miss L. MacKinnon, Brian, Barrie and Peter Megson and other members of the family.

Ambassadors, high commissioners and other members of the Diplomatic Corps: the Earl of Bessborough, the Earl of Inchcape, the Countess of Avon, Viscount Garnoyle, Viscount Montgomery of Alamein, Lady Home of the Hirsel, Lord Astor of Hever, Lord and Lady Holderness, Lord Bernstein, Lord and Lady Duncan-Sandys, Baroness Elliot of Harwood, Lord Elton, Lord and Lady Greenwood of Rossendale, Lord and Lady Garner, Lord and Lady Gore-Booth, Lord and Lady Pearl, Lord and Lady Seebohm, Lord and Lady Sherfield, Baroness Vickers, Baroness White, Lord Blake (Provost of The Queen's College Oxford), Lord Grey of Naunton (Royal Over-Seas League), Lord Caradon, Lord Greenhill of Harrow, Baroness Llewelyn-Davies of Hastoe, Lady Trevelyan, Lady Claud Hamilton, Mr Michael Cocks, MP, Mr Michael Jopling, MP, Sir Geoffrey and Lady de Freitas, Commander Sir Allan Noble, the Hon John Silkin, MP, the Hon Mrs C Holm, the Hon Kenneth Macdonald, the Hon Diana Makgill.

Sir Colin Campbell, Lady Shakespeare, Sir Godfrey Nicholson, Sir Nigel Fisher, Lady (Dingle) Foot, Sir Eric Norris (Royal Commonwealth Society) and Lady Norris, Professor Sir Harold Thompson (Great Britain-China Centre), Sir Maurice Dorman (Lord Prior of the Order of St John of Jerusalem), Sir Edward Ford (Order of Merit), Sir David Hunt (Commonwealth Institute), Sir Laurence Kirwan (Royal Geographical Society), Sir John Moreton (Wates Foundation), Sir John Prideaux (Victoria League for Commonwealth Friendship), Sir Michael Stewart (Sotheby, Parke, Bernet) and Lady Stewart, Sir Robin Vanderfelt (CPA) and Lady Vanderfelt, Sir Michael Walker (Festival of India Trust) and Lady Walker, Sir Anthony Abell, Sir Leonard Allinson, Sir Brian and Lady Batsford, Sir Robert and Lady Black, Sir Alan and Lady Campbell, Sir Fife Clark, Sir Sydney and Lady Caine, Lady Clark, Sir John and Lady Cotton, Sir Derman and Lady Christopherson, Sir Douglas and Lady Dodds-Parker, Lady Ferguson, Sir Robert and Lady Fowler, Sir Berkeley and Lady Gage, Lady Grantham.

Sir Frank and Lady Gibbs, Sir William Goode, Lieutenant-General Sir Richard Goodwin, Major-General Sir Ralph and Lady Hone, Sir Noel Hall, General Sir Charles Harington, Sir John and Lady Johnston, Sir Arthur and Lady Kirby, Sir William and Lady Keswick, Sir Gilbert Laithwaite, Sir Gilbert Longden, Sir Ronald and Lady McIntosh, Sir Arthur de la Mare (Royal Society for Asian Affairs), Sir George Martin, Sir George Middleton, Sir Leslie and Lady Monson, Sir Donald and Lady Maitland, Sir Maurice Oldfield, Sir Peter Preston, Sir Neil and Lady Pritchard, Sir Cyril and Lady Pickard, Sir Raghavan Pillai, Sir John and Lady Peel, Sir Gilbert and Lady Rennie, Sir John Rennie, Sir John Rothenstein, Sir Harold and Lady Smedley, Sir Arthur and Lady Snelling, Sir Noel Short, Sir David A. and Lady Scott, Professor Sir Kenneth Stuart, Sir Duncan Watson, Sir Alexander Waddell, Sir Geoffrey Wilson, Sir Gordon Whitteridge, Mr Charles and Lady Katherine Farrell.

Mrs Richard Luce (representing the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs), Professor F. G. T. Holliday (Vice-Chancellor of Durham University), Mr F. A. Judd (Voluntary Service Overseas), Mr Guy Barnett, MP, Mr Barney Hayhoe, MP, and Mrs Hayhoe, Mr Peter Tapsell, MP, Mr Ray Whitney, MP, and Mrs Whitney, Mr and Mrs G. D. Anderson, Mr Alec Adams, Mr John Biggs-Davison, MP, Mr Peter Bowring, Mr Douglas J. Brown, Mr T. F. Brenchley, Mr and Mrs G. Burgess, Mrs G. Barnett, Mr Roger Bartrop, Mr and Mrs W. F. Bell, Mrs T. Cazalet-Keir, Mr John Chadwick, Mr C. M. Carruthers, Mr and Mrs Edward Cazalet, Mrs Peter Cazalet, Mr and Mrs M. Campbell, Mr W. A. Dodd, Mr H. L. Davies, Mr J. Dickie, Miss E. J. Emery, Mr G. J. Ellerton, Mr and Mrs Ewen Fergusson, Mr and Mrs J. F. Ford, Mr Andrew Faulds, MP, Mr and Mrs Michael Gale, Mr G. L. Gray, Mr and Mrs J. S. Gandee, Mr Timothy George, Mr Basil Gray, Mr and Mrs F. B. Hindmarsh, Mr and Mrs R. P. Heppel, Miss Judy Hutchinson, Mr P. M. D'Arcy Hart, Mr Peter Heap, Air Vice-Marshal E. James, Mr A. W. Kent, Mr and Mrs Kanyah.

Mr Kenneth Lindsay, Mrs Christopher Mayhew, Mr M. C. Manby, Mr V. C. Martin, Mr Robin McLaren, Mrs Reginald Maudling, Mr J. E. C. Macrae, Mr F. V. Michell, Mr Anson Ng, Professor Roland Oliver, Mr and Mrs M. W. Ponsonby, Professor R. B. Pugh, Miss Daphne Park, Mr A. D. C. Peterson, Puan Halia Salcha, Mr and Mrs Norman Reddaway, Professor and Mrs Kenneth Robinson, Mr J. T. Rea, Mr and Mrs Charles Ritchie, Mr G. B. Shannon, Mr and Mrs Peter Smith, Mr E. L. Sykes, Mr and Mrs S. W. Stephens, Mr John Sankey, Vice-Admiral and Mrs W. Staveley, Mr and Mrs J. K. Thomson, Mr J. E. C. Thornton, Mr J. B. Ure, Mr and Mrs Ian Wall, Mr and Mrs Stephen Wilson, Mr W. J. Watts, Mr and Mrs A. M. Webb, Mr S. J. Whitwell, Mr P. E. Walters, Mr and Mrs L. B. Walsh Atkins.

Mr Graham C. Greene (Jonathan Cape), Mr Charles Pick (Heinemann Group), Mr R. M. K. Slater (Youth Development Trust), Dr P. A. I. Tahourdin (British Council), Mr Philip Ziegler (William Collins and Sons), Mr Alexander Pollock, MP (Moray District Council), Mr P. Gray (Durham Students Union), Miss Mary Penn (Sino-British Trade Council), Mr K. Lanlie (China Society), Dr Alastair Niven (Africa Centre), Miss M. A. Braylon (Commonwealth Nurses Federation), Mrs W. Coulson (Women's Council), Mr Dennis Grennan (Ariel Foundation), Mr R. F. Gray (Commonwealth Youth Exchange Council), Mr M. J. Gent (Guthrie Corporation) and Mrs Gent, Mr S. Gomes (Goan Association UK), and Mrs Gomes, Mr H. Z. Hoxter (Irac), Mr S. D. Malalgoda (Britain India Forum), Mr B. H. Tyldesley Jones (Concordia) and Tan Toch Walh (Overseas Chinese Banking Corporation).

Tate buys bronze by de Kooning

A bronze sculpture by the American artist William de Kooning, "Seated Figure on a Bench", has been bought by the Tate Gallery, for an unspecified sum, and is on display there. De Kooning is best known as a painter but he started sculpting in 1969: "Seated Figure" dates from 1972.

Ark Royal launching

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother is to launch the aircraft carrier, Ark Royal, at Wallsend, Tyne and Wear, on June 2.

Lacquered screen and two Tiffany lamps fail to sell

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

Christie's had a disappointing time with its sale of Art Nouveau, Art Deco and Studio Pottery yesterday, with 28 per cent of a £101,943 total left unsold.

A two-fold lacquered screen painted by R. Schils in the studio of Paul Follot in Paris in 1929 on a commission from Waring and Gillow in London had been expected to reach £10,000-£16,000 but was bought in at £6,000. Two Tiffany lamps also failed to sell at £5,500 (estimate £8,000-£9,000) and £7,000 (estimate £12,000-£14,000).

Here and there, however, oddities attracted competitive bidding. There was a group of facsimiles of King Tutankhamun's jewels made at the School of Arts and Crafts in Cairo in the 1920s. An amethyst, pearl, cloisonne enamel and gold pendant of the Solar Hawk made £1,100 (estimate £600-£800) and a gold, blue and red enamelled pendant of the Kekhebet Vulture £950 (estimate £400-£600).

It was a good day for buying Doulton pottery, with prices often running well below estimate. A pair of oviform vases with bell-shaped necks by George Tinworth could be had for £190 (estimate £400-£600) and a Florence E. Barlow oviform vase decorated with a panel of partridges was sold for £140 (estimate £300-£400).

Gallé glass made healthier prices, with a big (58.5cm) double overlay slender oviform vase at £2,400 (estimate £1,500-£1,800). A German origin also implied high prices; a stained beechwood, open wing armchair designed by Marcel Kammerer and executed by Thonet in the workshops of Otto Wagner made £1,100 (estimate £350-£450).

The top price in the sale was £9,000 (estimate £6,000-£8,000) for a walnut four-fold screen with embroidered panels designed by Selwyn Image and executed by the Royal School of Art Needlework. The panels depict four goddesses and the screen dates from the late nineteenth century.

Sotheby's sale of carpets in Los Angeles on Monday made £156,050, with 24 per cent unsold. A sale of English and American furniture proved more popular, with only 8 per cent of the £176,381 total unsold. A pair of George I walnut sidechairs made the top price at $22,000 (estimate $3,000-$3,500) or £10,045.

£155,968 stamp sale: The Alan McLeod collection of British Commonwealth stamps of all periods made £155,968 at Harmer's in Bond Street yesterday (Our Philatelic Correspondent writes).

Every lot in the unreserved sale reached or exceeded the auctioneer's estimate. An unused 1919 Malta 10 shilling black made £3,600, and an unused 1898 Rhodesia £10 lilac sold for £3,100, despite some slight faults.

25 years ago

From The Times of Saturday, March 3, 1956

Glubb Pasha dismissed

The summary dismissal of Glubb Pasha from command of the Arab Legion is the most sinister event which has occurred in the Middle East since the Egyptian purchase of arms from Iron curtain countries. Its timing, at the moment when Mr Selwyn Lloyd, the British Foreign Minister, was in Cairo exploring the possibilities of a Middle East settlement with Colonel Nasser, could hardly have been more provocative. Glubb Pasha had become a legend in the Arab countries; so was he in Britain where his dismissal and that of some of his fellow officers has come as a shock. This action of the Jordanian government, although ungrateful, undignified and dangerous, is only the speeding up of an existing trend. If Glubb Pasha had been left to complete the term of his contract it is certain that he would not have been succeeded by an Englishman. Progressive Jordanization of the Arab Legion has been going on for some time. Hitherto its pace has been regulated by the dictates of efficiency.

Science report

Zoology: The disappearing skate

By the Staff of *Nature*

A scientist working at the laboratory of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food at Lowestoft reports in this week's *Nature* that, because of commercial overfishing, the common skate has become so rare in the Irish Sea that its extinction is probable. According to Dr K. Brander, the highest mortality that the species can withstand without collapse has been exceeded for some time.

The common skate, *Raia batis*, is a member of the ray family, a group of fish living on the bottom of the sea. The skate has a fairly wide distribution, from the mid-Norwegian coast, around Trondheim, down south to the Bay of Biscay and the southern North Sea.

Unfortunately, records of its population levels in the Irish Sea are scarce. It appears to have been common in 1902, and only slightly less so in the 1940s. However, by the 1950s and 1960s many fewer catches were being reported.

One of the most surprising and disturbing aspects is that since then, the only hint in all the fishing literature of the seriousness of the skate's situation is that it was suspended from the annual lists of the Irish Specimen Fish Committee in 1976 because of its scarcity. During the past five years, an average of fewer than 10 specimens has been caught annually from the Irish Sea, and all of those have been from the North Channel.

In determining the population trend of a fishing stock, Dr Brander emphasizes the importance of the numbers surviving to maturity. In the case of the skate, so many immature fish have been caught that the number of adults reaching maturity has declined to the extent that the population balance has been upset.

Several of the skate's characteristics make it particularly vulnerable to overfishing. It has low fertility, laying only about 40 eggs a year. It grows slowly and does not mature until 11 years of age. But most important, at birth it is 22 centimetres long and so the young skate is as vulnerable as the adult to capture by various types of net and long line. Young skate are also caught in shrimping nets in shallow water.

The significance of survival to maturity rather than fertility *per se* in determining the response to exploitation is further underlined by a comparison between different species of ray. Others are also suffering from overfishing but to a lesser degree. That includes the species that lay fewer eggs than the skate, but the young of those other species are born smaller and therefore are less vulnerable.

The skate is typical of fish with cartilaginous skeletons. In comparison, the bony fish, such as the cod, whiting and herring, are much less vulnerable to overfishing. They can lay thousands of eggs, grow quickly and start to breed much earlier. In many ways the skate is more like the small marine mammals, such as the Sirenialugongs and manatees. For many of the same reasons as the skate, the Sirenia have also been on the verge of extinction.

The skate has disappeared from the western English Channel. Clearly, it faces a similar fate in the Irish Sea as nothing short of a total ban on all sea-bottom fishing will save it, and for commercial and political reasons, that is plainly unacceptable.

The main factor influencing the skate has been trawling. For that reason it is unlikely to become extinct off the coast of Norway. The skate population there shows no sign of declining because the sea floor of that coastal area is largely unsuitable for the use of trawling gear.

Source: *Nature*, March 5, 1981 (Vol 290, page 48).

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OBITUARY

MR G. P. S. MACPHERSON

Finance and merchant banking

Mr G. P. S. Macpherson, CBE, TD, a former chairman of Robert Benson Lonsdale & Co Ltd and subsequently deputy chairman of Kleinwort Benson Lonsdale Ltd, died on March 2 at his home in Buckinghamshire where he had lived for 40 years. He was 77.

Born on December 14, 1903, in Newtonmore, Inverness-shire, the second son of Sir Stewart Macpherson, CIE, ICS, and Lady Helen Macpherson, KIH, he spent the first few years of his life in India. He returned to Edinburgh at the age of six, where he was educated at Edinburgh Academy before becoming a scholar at Fettes College in 1916. During his years at Fettes he started on what was to become an outstanding sporting career in which he excelled at cricket, the long jump, hurdling and rugby football. It will always be in this latter sport that "GPS" will be best remembered for he played for both Oxford (1922-24) and Scotland for which he was capped 26 times between the years of 1922 and 1932. His best known partners in the near-unbeatable Scottish three-quarter line of the time were Ian Smith, Herbert Waddell and L. J. Wallace.

His academic career was also successful for he proceeded from Fettes to become a scholar at Oriel College, Oxford, and to take a double first in Classics before spending a year as a Davison scholar at Yale University in 1925. He returned from Yale to Edinburgh where he qualified as a Chartered Accountant and became a partner in Layton-Bennett, Chiene & Tait in 1930. In 1934 he became a director of The Standard Life Assurance Co, a position he was to hold for just over 40 years.

In 1936, he moved from Edinburgh to London where he joined the merchant bankers Robert Benson & Co Ltd as a managing director.

His early career in the City of London was interrupted by the war. He had been an officer in the 7/9 Battalion The Royal Scots (TA) (the "Dandy Ninth") in Edinburgh and on the outbreak of war he transferred to the London Scottish. He was initially posted to Kent but in 1941 became a member of SOE and moved to Cairo from where he directed operations in the Eastern Mediterranean. He was in particular concern[ed] with the organization of t[he] resistance movements in th[e] area. He moved in 1945 [to] Vienna where he was Direct[or] of the Finance Division of t[he] Allied Control Commission a[nd] responsible for formulati[ng] plans for the launch of a n[ew] currency which was required [at] the end of the war in Austr[ia]. For war services, he was appo[in]ted OBE in 1943, and beca[me] a brigadier in 1945.

Returning to Robert Bens[on] & Co Ltd in 1946, he enlarg[ed] that firm's activities, partic[u]larly in the investment ma[n]agement field, and became [a] director of several industr[ial] companies and investme[nt] trusts. For many years [he] acted as financial adviser [to] Herbert Hill, who had be[en] a contemporary at Fettes a[nd] Oxford, and who was at t[he] time building up Birfield L[td] which included the well-know[n] automotive engineering co[m]pany of Hardy-Spicer Ltd. [He] was chairman of the Issui[ng] Houses Association in 1955 a[nd] 1956, and a member of t[he] Executive Committee of t[he] Investment Trust Associati[on] from 1955-68.

He became chairman [of] Robert Benson Lonsdale & [Co] Ltd in 1958 and was much co[n]cerned in negotiations leadi[ng] to a decision, made in 1960, [to] merge with the bankers Klei[n]wort Sons & Co. In the enlarg[ed] company he was deputy cha[ir]man to Ernest Kleinwort w[ho] became a good friend and w[ith] whom he worked until h[is] retirement in 1966.

For some years after h[is] official retirement he remain[ed] a non-executive director of ce[r]tain investment trusts a[nd] played a major role in t[wo] charitable foundations. T[he] Royal Greenwich Hospital (f[or] services to which he w[as] appointed CBE) and the Esm[ée] Fairbairn Charitable Trust. H[e] was active in the latter unt[il] his death.

He was a governor of Fett[es] College from 1957-77, and [of] the Finance Committee of t[he] English Speaking Union fro[m] 1969-1974 and of the Roy[al] Caledonian Schools from 195[?]-73. He was made an Honora[ry] DLitt of Heriot Watt Unive[r]sity in 1971.

In 1939 he married Bett[y] Cameron Smail, daughter of [?] J. Cameron Smail, OBE, [of] Edinburgh who survives hi[m] together with their three son[s].

LADY ST OSWALD

T. C. F. P. writes:

Lady St Oswald, who died recently, will be remembered by literally hundreds of friends with admiration and deep affection. She was a person of wit and intellect, as well as outstanding charm and beauty. She also had great courage. As a young girl she escaped over the Carpathians and through the Balkans to the Middle East, after her native Poland had been occupied by both the Germans and the Russians, under the terms of the infamous Hitler-Stalin Pact of 1939.

In the Middle East, like so many of her infinitely gallant Polish compatriots, she joined the British forces and served throughout the war. While Britain fought for survival first of all, Wanda St Oswald was one of those very many European "allies" whose essential purpose was to set Europe free from its Nazi oppressors. Poland's post-war fate, when its liberties were trampled afresh by Russian in place of German conquerors, was [a] source of deep sadness to he[r].

When she married Rowlan[d] St Oswald a quarter of a ce[n]tury ago, she became t[he] chatelaine of one of the gre[at] country houses of Englan[d], Nostell Park in Yorkshir[e]. There she exercised to the fu[ll] her capacity for making frien[ds] and for presiding over wee[k]end gatherings, often with [a] strongly political flavour—he[r] husband was one of the bes[t] speakers in the Conservativ[e] interest in the House of Lords, a joint Parliamentary Secretary and a lord-in-waiting.

Wanda easily and effortlessly charmed all who met her, wit[h] a totally natural grace and tha[t] increasingly rare gift o[f] interesting herself in other[s]. Among them were her forme[r] Polish compatriots whom sh[e] never for a moment forgot o[r] neglected—their massed rank[s] at Brompton Oratory after he[r] death were a deserved tribut[e] to shared loyalties.

She will be missed by [a] very many—former Prim[e] Ministers among them—but sh[e] will be forgotten by none.

GROUP CAPTAIN E. C. PASSMORE

Group Captain Eric Charles Passmore, CBE, who died in Seychelles on February 18, aged 71, had a distinguished record of service, latterly in communications. He joined the Royal Air Force in 1929 with a short service Commission, learnt to fly in Egypt, and subsequently served in Iraq.

After a long signals course at Cranwell, he gained a permanent commission in the Signals Branch. He served with the Fleet Air Arm for four years in HMS Furious until 1938. During the Second World War he served first in Fighter Command Groups and later in the Middle East and Italy. After the War he served in England and the[n] from 1950 to 1954 was lent t[o] the Indian Air Force as Director of Signals.

He was made an OBE in 194[?] and a CBE in 1952.

On his retirement from the Royal Air Force after a Nat[o] tour at HQ AAFCE Fontain[e]bleau, he settled in Seychelle[s] and was soon asked to help i[n] establishing a radio station an[d] broadcasting service there. H[e] was the designer and founde[r] of what was to become Radi[o] Seychelles, and stayed with th[e] organisation as Manager an[d] Chief Engineer until September 1976. He leaves a widow, a son and two daughters.

MR DAVID GARNETT

R.P.G. writes:

May I add a few words to your obituary of David Garnett? It is right that some mention should be made of the generous help which he was always ready to give to other authors. One thinks for example of the way in which he championed the work of T. F. Powys.

In the summer of 1922, Powys was virtually unknown as an author. That autumn, Garnett did everything he could to ensure that Powys received favourable treatment at the hands of Chatto's, who were soon publishing his work. Garnett also persuaded the Editor of the *New Leader* to begin accepting Powys's short stories, which for some time were a great feature of that magazine.

Garnett also encouraged leading literary figures such as Virginia Woolf to take some interest in Powys's work. (Though she, not untypically, was kinder to his face than she was behind his back.)

Colonel James Newton Vallance, OBE, TD, died on March 3 at the age of 75. He served in the Royal Artillery during the Second World War, was Lieutenant-Colonel commanding the Robin Hoods, Sherwood Foresters from 1951 to 1955, and was appointed a Deputy Lieutenant for Notts in 1966.

Today's engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh, as president of National Playing Fields Association, visits association's resource centre, Ward End Park, Birmingham, 10.15; opens Granville Street development of Trident Housing Society, Birmingham, 10.55; visits UNALCO Ltd, Walsall, 12.15; visits Leigh Interests Ltd, Lindon Road, Brownhills, West Midlands, 12.35.

The Duke of Gloucester presents prizes to winners of ICI Wheatrace Game, Queen Elizabeth Hall, 10.30.

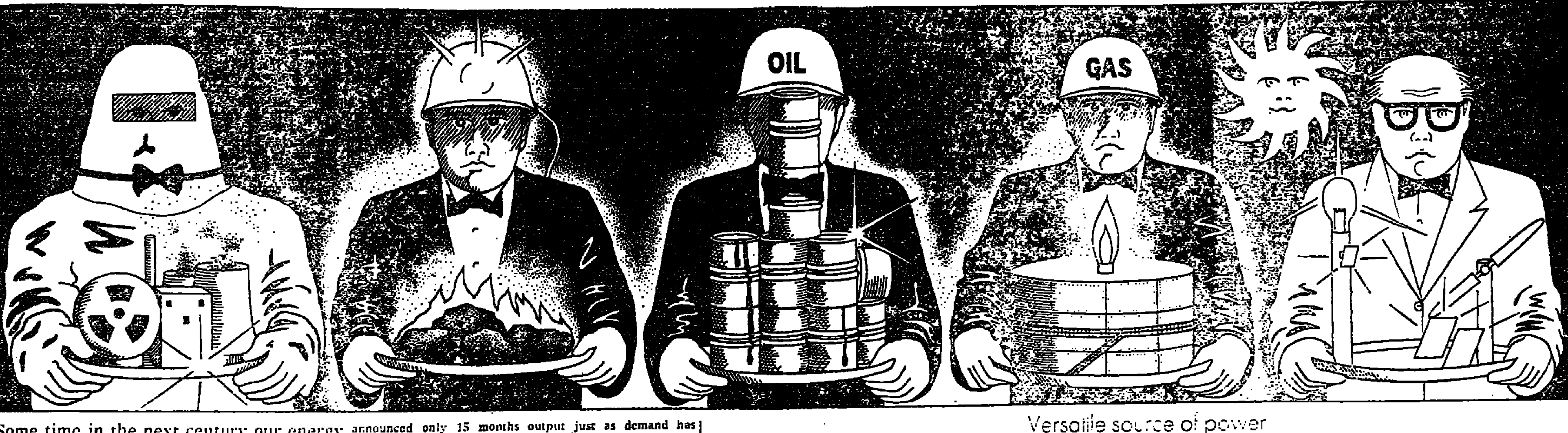
Lectures: Oriental drawing, by Philip Rawson of Goldsmith's College, Victoria and Albert Museum, 1.15; Pre-Raphaelites and the National Gallery, by Malcolm Warner, National Gallery, 1; Encroachment of Dirigisme on the development of arts and science, by Professor Sir Geoffrey Allen, Royal Society of Arts, 8 John Adam Street, 6; Voice in Poetry, by Jenny Joseph, Poetry Society, 21 Earls Court Square, 7.30; Neither Bleak House nor Liberty Hall: English in the curriculum, by Professor Harold Rosen, London University Institute of Education, 20 Bedford Way, 6; Spirit of the Nation, by Mrs Margaret Thatcher, St Lawrence Jewry next Guildhall, 1.15: Books are the bones of saints, by Ben Weinreb, Royal Institution, Albemarle Street, 6; Constable's letters, with Cecily Lowenthal, Bill Cohen, Tate Gallery, 1.

Exhibitions: Trevor Faulkner: Metal sculptures of birds, Alwin Gallery, 9-10 Grafton Street, 10-6; Victoria Cross exhibition, National Postal Museum, King Edward Street, 10-4.30.

Lunchtime music: SCMS concert, Guildhall School of Music, Barbican, 1.

Chairman of the GLC visits Kingston upon Thames, 10.30; Hosts a reception for London's taxi trade, County Hall, 6.

ENERGY FUTURES



Jonathan Williams

Some time in the next century our energy could be provided by technologies which have yet to be properly proved even in the laboratory. Fusion power could take over from the nuclear fission reactors of today, providing heat to drive the steam turbines of electrical generation by the combining, instead of splitting, of atoms.

Benign energy sources could proliferate. Every house could be built to take the maximum advantage of the sun, with south-facing windows, advanced insulation and solar panels for partial space and water heating. Clusters of giant windmills could be adding electricity to the national grid. Remote villages could have windmills of their own. Nodding platforms could lift to the waves which every day dissipate on Britain's shores sufficient power, if it could all be harnessed, to supply all the country's needs.

Photovoltaic cells, now used in power satellites in space, could become commonplace, and oil from shales, tar sands, and even coal, could, if more expensive than today, still be available at a cost which allowed the continuation of personal and public transport we have all come to expect. Most forecasters are much less worried about what happens after 2020 than they are about the transition before it.

And that is not just because 40 years hence seems so far into the future. The technologies to provide the world's energy then are already available. Even if fusion and photovoltaics failed to become commercial propositions, a steady increase of thermal nuclear, fast breeder, wave, wind, tidal power and non-conventional sources of oil and gas would meet requirements.

The problem is achieving that steady increase. The true message of the 1978-80 oil price crisis was that the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries would never again increase its production and the industrialized West would be faced with meeting its energy demand in other ways. In the two decades to 1980, two thirds of energy demand had been met by growth in oil output. From now on economic growth will have to become both less energy-dependent and less dependent on imported oil.

Recession throughout the West has allowed, so far at least, yet another oil price increase as a result of the Iran-Iraq war. Energy consumption in Britain, which is much better off than most of the West for energy resources, was down 6 per cent in 1980 and demand continues to fall yet the energy conservation message does seem to be going home. The Conservative administration has used the rise in oil prices and the parallel increase in international prices for natural gas to raise sharply the cost of gas to both industrial and domestic consumers.

So successful has the plan been to charge the "market rate" for energy that it has raised howls of protest from industry, complaining that costs in Britain were now out of step with those in competitor countries. Waste, nevertheless, is being curtailed all the time.

But the drop in demand has brought its own problems. Both the electricity authorities and the National Coal Board have found reduced sales playing havoc with their cash flows, creating difficulties in keeping within the financial targets set by government. The investment programmes of both have been in danger. Paradoxically, while the Gas Corporation was at one time asking high prices to deter demand, it seemed that the electricity authorities might be forced to raise prices because demand had fallen.

Short term fluctuations in markets continuously play havoc with planning for the long term. Forecasts of energy demand in Britain continue to be cut, while the presence of North Sea oil and gas detracts from the urgency to find and invest in alternatives felt by other nations.

In a deliberately provocative lecture recently, Professor Ian Fells, a respected energy expert from Newcastle University, questioned whether Britain really had an energy policy. In principle it does. It is to rely on increased conservation, coal and nuclear power to replace oil and gas as production, but all three legs of this policy have been under attack.

The strategy designed to bring the National Coal Board to profitability in 1983-4, without the help of operating grants, is in tatters while an all-party select committee has renewed doubts over the wisdom of proceeding with the £15,000m nuclear programme announced only 15 months ago.

Development of the North Sea has proceeded slower than forecast, but then oil consumption has shrunk too, bringing net self-sufficiency at a much lower rate of output than expected. The first decision under the Government's stated depletion policy, that net self-sufficiency be maintained for as long as possible, has been taken by delaying for two years the start of production on the British National Oil Corporation's Clyde field. But that decision was far from simple and the way in which it was reached, with the Treasury battling for a longer delay for reasons connected with the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement, was an indication of how it was easily possible for matters of energy policy to become subservient to other government aims.

There can be no doubt that the new supplementary petroleum revenue tax of 20 per cent, to be levied on North Sea fields from April 1, will take money out of the sector which would otherwise have been used for new developments. It is not possible to take £1,000m out of the companies' revenues without it having some effect. It might not be a bad thing if a slowing of the pace of development could lead to an alignment with depletion policy. The need for a large exploration programme to keep production up through the 1990s remains however.

The unfortunate part of energy planning is that the lead times are so long and the forecasts so uncertain that mistakes may not show up until two or even three parliaments after the decision was taken.

The latest projections of demand made by the Department of Energy were published in 1979 but were out of date almost as soon as they were written. The price of oil was expected to reach $30 a barrel (in 1977 prices) by the end of the century. Most of that increase has already taken place, and the economic growth assumptions of 2 per cent for a low case and 3 per cent for a higher case, look increasingly questionable.

The National Coal Board was strongly attacked by expert witnesses called by protesters against its planned new coal mine in the Vale of Belvoir in north-east Leicestershire, on the ground that the nation would not need the production within the timescale estimated by the board. In fact the coal industry has reversed its long time decline in deep output just as demand has dropped.

Domestic coal production is being undercut by imports, but the more new pits it brings into production the more of the older, uneconomic 10 per cent of production, losing £190m a year, it would be able to close. Miners are naturally troubled over allowing a reduction in output and numbers employed before new pits are working. The intention of the Plan for Coal of 1974 was to raise output. For years the electricity authorities have been as concerned at the NCB's ability to deliver the coal they promised as they have at being obliged to buy more than they needed. Everyone's worry is of a profusion of energy supply and a lack of demand.

Should, therefore, the coal and nuclear programmes be cut? Projections of demand provided by the Department of Energy to the inspector in the Vale of Belvoir inquiry showed that if economic growth were cut to only 1 per cent a year, total demand for coal would be only 110 million tonnes in 1990 and 115 million tonnes in 2000. That is less than is being sold now.

The Energy Select Committee, in its report on the nuclear power programme, questioned both whether the electricity authorities' projection of a 2½ per cent a year economic growth by 2000 would materialize and whether electricity demand would rise at 70 per cent of the economic growth rate.

What must be decided is when a short-term fluctuation has become a long-term trend. Programmes, whether they be nuclear coal, or oil and gas, have a habit of slipping naturally, particularly if a lack of demand is straining cash. The nuclear power programme has slipped by at least a year because of a delay in producing final designs, and the coal programme has slipped badly through planning delays and over-optimistic estimates of the effects of new investment in oil pits. Uneconomic production can be subsidized for a time, but subsidy is never a successful way of achieving long-term growth. If the coal industry does not eventually stand on its own feet, it will shrink.

The greatest single energy saver in Britain could be harnessing waste heat from power stations, but the problem where best to invest, is not easily solved, and political difficulties line any route to the future.

Nicholas Hirst
Energy Correspondent

Versatile source of power

Deep mining should remain economic

Energy economists describe coal as the "swing" fuel of the future. It is destined to take over from oil as the prime internationally-traded energy source. It is more flexible, more versatile than nuclear power and can act as a substitute for oil, as a feedstock for petrochemicals, as a source of heat, for the generation of electric power or synthetic petrol.

The World Coal Study, WOCOL, directed by Professor Carroll Wilson of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, in which the National Coal Board took part, estimated that coal would have to supply between one half and two thirds of the additional energy required by the world during the next 20 years.

To achieve this means that production would have to increase between two and a half and three times, and world trade in steam coal, used for most purposes other than steel making, would have to grow between 10 and 15 times. One of the big problems identified by the study was that over the next few years demand for coal was likely to be slack, but the basic services of ports, railways and tankers required to ship it would have to be under construction.

At the summit meeting of heads of state of the seven leading economic powers in Venice last June, political will was put behind the need to increase coal trade. As part of their declaration on reducing oil imports they agreed to double coal production by 1990, a target which most forecasters believed was obtainable only by 2000, and then only with considerable difficulty.

International coal trade, however, is already picking up, and the bottlenecks predicted in the WOCOL report are already occurring. Congestion in ports in the United States and Australia has cut the deliveries planned under contract to the Central Electricity Generating Board in Britain. Production capacity in the United States, however, remains way above demand.

The problems that an increased international trade in coal can provide for Britain are also rapidly becoming obvious. Imported coal can be landed at £10 a tonne less than is possible with native production or even more cheaply.

Production in western United States and Australia is from large open-cast pits mined by huge drag lines. The deep mines in Britain can never hope to compete on direct costs, but taking account of added freight cost and the tendency of coal prices to follow oil prices upwards, deep-mined coal in Britain should still remain an economic proposition.

But to do so it must reduce the number of high-cost old mines which are damaging its financial performance. The difficulties of doing that have become all too apparent with the collapse of the Government's strategy to force an acceleration of pit closures.

Since 1974 successive British governments have been committed to expansion of deep-mined output of coal in Britain. This was intended to generate 40 million tonnes of new capacity at both old and new pits by the mid-1980s and to raise opencast output to 15 million tonnes. Originally this was expected to bring production back to about 135 million tonnes about 1985, after years of gradual decline during the 1960s and early 1970s. Looking further ahead, new and replacement capacity of about four million tonnes a year would create up to 170 million tonnes by 2000.

The programme has slipped badly. Productivity at the coal face has improved dramatically recently, as the £500m investment programme established seven years ago has begun to pay off, and 1979-80 saw the first improvement in deep-mined output (excepting the effect of strikes) since 1963. But of the 40 million tonnes of new capacity planned for 1985, none has so far come from new mines.

Ministers in the Department of Energy hoped that the effects of the recession and the constraints imposed by its Coal Act of 1980 would force the NCB to close uneconomic pits and concentrate its efforts on new capacity.

But it is understandable that both the miners and the coal board should be nervous of allowing their output to fall. Markets once lost, particularly to imported coal, may never be regained. The Government's plan in the Coal Act was to force the industry to be competitive. An opposing view would be that the security gained from an indigenous source of supply, even at a slightly higher cost than that obtainable from imports, was worth the price.

In the long term, however, the British coal industry will have to prove internationally competitive if it is to grow. Governments will always be reluctant to provide subsidies, and a subsidized industry tends not to lead to the conditions for growth.

The miners and the coal board, nevertheless, have been hit by a temporary fall in demand. The coal industry is still in the process of change, from being run down to feeling the full effects of new investment, and if it is to expand output, temporary subsidies may be no bad thing.

Much will depend on the growth of demand from industry, from the need for synthetic fuels to replace oil and gas and from electricity generation. If electricity demand grows fairly slowly and the Government continues with 15,000 MW of new nuclear capacity over the decade from 1982, demand for coal for electricity generation will be static at best. Growth in industry may depend on the willingness of government to subsidize oil conversion programmes, while the need for synthetics will depend both on the level of discoveries in the North Sea and the willingness of the Norwegians to allow their gas to be delivered to Britain.

But it is not safe at the moment to assume anything except that coal's importance in Britain's energy needs is likely to increase.

N.H.

Nuclear power

Relaunch in Britain welcomed as modest and sensible

When Mr David Howell, the Secretary of State for Energy, stood up in the House of Commons on December 18, 1979, to launch again nuclear power in Britain, the programme he suggested was welcomed both by politicians and industry as modest and sensible.

That was the response which had been hoped for. According to the Government's energy projections of 1979 between 33,000 MW and 36,000 MW of new nuclear plant would be required by the end of the century, including the two advanced gas cooled British designed reactors (AGR) which were already proposed.

Compared with the orders required to meet those projections, Mr Howell's statement that the electricity supply industry had advised that "even on modest assumptions" it would "need to order at least one new nuclear power station a year in the decade from 1982, or a programme of 15,000MW over 10 years" seemed to be treading gently indeed.

It was as the Cabinet had intended. The Government was anxious to avoid the strong opposition to nuclear power which has built up in West Germany, seen cuts in Sweden, and prevented development in other European countries altogether. It wished to establish the option of an alternative to the British-designed machines by subjecting an American designed pressurized water reactor (PWR) to a public inquiry, but the type of reactor for future orders was not specified.

Conservation groups attacked the programme as unnecessary, but the gentle approach seemed to be working. The programme might not provide sufficient nuclear power to generate half Britain's electricity and supply a fifth of primary energy demand by the year 2000 as had been expected in the 1979 energy projections, but it was a cautious move in that direction, able to be speeded if need be.

Now the all-party select committee on energy has attacked even Mr Howell's modest programme as being over-ambitious. A dispute over which type of reactor should be chosen has been reopened, and the Government and electricity supply authorities once again find themselves on the defensive.

The select committee makes several points. It is unhappy at the spare capacity that the Central Electricity Generating Board keeps available to make certain of meeting peak winter demand. It believes that the forecasts of economic growth of 2½ per cent annually to 2000 are too high, and that it is unlikely that electricity demand will, as has been suggested increase at approximately 70 per cent of the rate of growth of the gross domestic product. In short, the MPs believe that the £15,000m earmarked for the nuclear programme could be better spent elsewhere.

The attack without doubt adds to the considerable uncertainties already hanging over the nuclear industry. Ordering the two advanced gas cooled reactors has not gone according to plan. Designs took longer to prepare than expected, and the National Nuclear Corporation has been forced into being an agent of the electricity generating authorities rather than being the main contractor, as a result of legal difficulties connected with its small capitalization.

The Government had second thoughts about going ahead with the two AGRs last year, and although it is now too late to abandon either, the temptation to slow the rest of the programme must be strong.

New capacity, however, is needed. As the MPs themselves make clear, some 43,000 MW of generating capacity will be 30 years old by 2000, and a decade later much of it is bound to be near the end of its economic life. Most of this plant is coal-fired, and demand for coal from industry and possibly for synthetic natural gas should by that time be rising.

Nevertheless, the drop in demand for electricity over the past 12 months would indicate caution over future ordering. Electricity sales at present are expected to be a full 7 per cent down on the previous year. The effects of conservation and the recession have reduced demand to below the level seen during the national steel strike, and the steel industry is one of the electricity authorities' biggest customers.



Mr Martin Stevens (left), Conservative MP for Fulham, with Anti-Nuclear Campaign demonstrators.

Just how fast demand might pick up once the recession ended is impossible to forecast. The problem with nuclear power as with all other energy industries, however, is that decisions on investments have to be made now to provide for demand eight years and more away.

The Central Electricity Generating Board itself claims that as a rule nuclear stations will pay for themselves through their lower costs, even if they are not required to replace stations no longer used or to meet a rise in demand. This is a seductive argument for going ahead with an ordering programme, but cost estimates are open to error, and benefits spread over 30 or 40 years exceedingly difficult to estimate. It is also true, as the MPs point out in their report, that if it were possible to reduce the amount of spare capacity, to meet peak demand, from 28 per cent of the total as planned at present to 20 per cent, investment of some £6,000m might be saved over the next 20 years.

Taking everything into account, the select committee did not think it unreasonable to have a modest programme of nuclear plant building, but it was sceptical whether it should be as high as 15,000 MW. It believed that each station should be assessed on its economic merits.

Worldwide there is likely to be substantial pressure on the nuclear industry around the turn of the century, and Britain would do well to keep a capability of its own. It matters little which design is chosen.

The select committee made great play over the electricity authorities' belief that a pressurized water reactor might cost 34 per cent more to build in Britain than it did elsewhere. The Central Electricity Generating Board has tended in the past to prefer the American to the British design. What needs to be done is for one or the other to be chosen as a single reactor type, and for the industry to be allowed to commit itself wholeheartedly to building that type.

Estimates of the comparative cost should be made before the first PWR is completed. Delays on site, such as at the ill-fated oil-fired Isle of Grain station, having nothing to do specifically with nuclear power; they happen at large sites of any kind.

The onus is on the CEGB and the Scottish authorities now to reaffirm their reasons for wanting a nuclear programme of the size they put to the select committee, and convince the country that it is required.

Nicholas Hirst

Good old-fashioned coal

Scramble is on to develop fuel of the future

The projected closure of coal pits, which has caused such a furore in Britain scarcely seems conducive to the idea that coal is an energy source of the future. Yet the actions of multinational oil companies seem to tell another story, for they are buying into coalmines in America, Australia and South Africa with great enthusiasm.

The scramble is on for a share of what seems likely to be the fastest-growing commodity trade of the next 20 years—good, old-fashioned coal. The twist comes in how the coal is to be used. This resurgence of interest in the fuel is not prompted by the need to supply electricity generating stations but by plans to convert the oldest of the natural hydrocarbons in present use into a liquid substitute for oil or natural gas.

The leading 12 international oil companies are already spending more than $1,000m a year on various developments of coal. A number of oil-from-coal feasibility studies are in hand in Australia, with the backing of commercial interests in Japan, West Germany and the United States. A large-scale project involving the Australian federal Government and the state Governments of Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland, known as the Imhausen study, is being developed with West Germany. It has identified five locations that are deemed suitable for coal liquefaction schemes. Each of the states is examining plant for producing 80,000 barrels of oil a day.

Competition for a stake in the coal business goes much wider than bidding for partnership in mining ventures. Research is being intensified into methods of discovering the most effective way of turning coal into oil, gas and chemicals.

By the turn of the century, fortunes are going to be won and lost on technological choices. The National Coal Board in Britain has staked an early claim with experimental processes to liquify coal, and is now building two pilot plants. Plans by British Gas include the erection of a £10m plant at Westfield for producing substitute natural gas (SNG) from coal as part of a £300m research and development programme.

To date the main commercial experience has been in South Africa, which has been producing oil and petrochemicals from coal after converting it to gas. But the chemical composition of coal varies widely, and the commercial operations of conversion plants are influenced by this factor as much as by the costs, which differ for open cast and underground workings.

The rate of development will depend on a number of interlocking factors concerning the technology of coal conversion and the needs of particular consumers for petrochemicals, transport and power supplies. As the price of oil continues to rise, the value of heavy fuel oil is also increasing. It is therefore an attractive proposition for oil companies to turn the latter into lighter products such as petrol, jet fuel and petrochemical feedstock.

Hitherto the cost of refining the heavy residues has been uneconomic. One consequence of conversion is that the market for "steam" coal for power stations and for industries such as cement making is expected to grow, thereby releasing the heavy fuel oil for refining to higher value products.

Recoverable coal reserves are more than five times greater than oil reserves, could last nearly 300 years on estimates of consumption, and are more evenly distributed round the world. However, world trade in coal is small compared with oil trade. The largest exporter is the United States, with Australia competing with Poland for second place.

The latest review of resources in Australia puts reserves of easily and economically recoverable deposits of high quality black coal at more than 27,000 million tonnes, or enough to last 1,000 years at the present rate of exploitation. And there are further inferred resources of more than 600,000 million tonnes.

But an indication of the speed at which coal production is likely to grow is seen in forecasts by Shell that international trade in steam coal will rise from 48 million tonnes in 1980 to 75 million tonnes in 1983, and 110 million tonnes in 1985; and these estimates have recently been increased.

Over a longer period the coal will be converted to premium products by processes such as that [illegible] developed by Shell for producing gas. Texaco is advanced on a gasific[ation] process, and Mobil is pe[rfect]ing a method to co[nvert] methanol, made from [coal] to petrol. The huge E[xxon] company is spending mil[lions] of pounds on gasific[ation] and, more particularly, l[ique]faction.

The choice between ad[ding] hydrogen to coal in a l[ique]faction process, thus rec[reat]ing the oil barrel, or brea[king] the complex coal mole[cule] down to a simple subs[tance] such as SNG, is a fascin[ating] balance between tech[nical] and commercial fa[ctors]. Among the issues are [ques]tions of whether conve[rsion] refineries are going t[o be] placed adjacent to the [pit]head and which of the [avail]able products is in [most] demand.

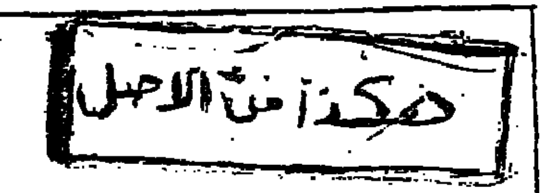
For strategic reasons, [the] need for a secure suppl[y of] petrol and chemical ind[ustry] feedstocks propelled S[outh] Africa into building its S[asol] plants, based on inven[tions] in Germany in the 1[illegible] Other methods are bein[g de]vised. For instance, Shell combined its processes [for] converting oil to gas with Koppers technology, w[hich] takes a wide range of c[oal].

The National Coal B[oard] and most of the large Am[eri]can oil companies are [con]centrating their attention [on] liquefaction, rather than gasifying the coal, u[sing] either catalytic (Conoco [and] Shell Oil), non-cata[lytic] (Gulf, Exxon and the N[CB]) as well as pyrolisis, tec[hno]logies, in which the coa[l is] distilled at high temperat[ures] without air.

The commercial produc[tion] of petrol or substitute nat[ural] gas on a global scale is [not] expected before the [illegible] 1990s, and the particular [pro]ducts are expected to [illegible] more than those derived [at] present from oil. Yet [the] development will have a [pro]found effect on the posi[tion] of the countries that pro[vide] the main sources of ene[rgy]. While it is unlikely that [any] country will become [as] dependent upon coal imp[orts] as some nations have bec[ome] on oil, the industrial co[un]tries should be able to [escape] the Opec noose and [illegible] countries such as Colom[bia], Zaire, Chile and Mozambi[que] will enter as important s[up]pliers in world trade.

Pearce Wrig[ht]
Science Ed[itor]

THE TIMES
BUSINESS NEWS



Companies slipping into the poverty trap, page 25

Stock markets
FT Ind 496.2 down 5.2
FT Gilts 68.64, down 0.33

Sterling
$2.2060, up 255 points
Index 99.5, up 0.8

Dollar
Index 101.3, down 0.1
DM 2.1580, up 85 points

Gold
$472.50, up $7

Money
3 mth sterling 12[illegible]-12[illegible]
3 mth Euro $ 17[illegible]-17[illegible]
6 mth Euro $ 17[illegible]-16[illegible]

IN BRIEF

800 jobs to go in BL cutback at Cowley

BL Cars has told shop stewards that it must cut the 12,000-strong labour force at its two Cowley car plants by 800 as soon as possible to keep manning in line with reduced demand.

There will be compulsory redundancies if insufficient volunteers come forward by the April deadline.

Production of the Ital, BL's best-selling family saloon, is to be cut from 1,500 a week to just over 1,000. Most of the redundancies are on the Ital body and assembly lines.

A BL spokesman said: "We have to keep our stock inventory in balance with recession-hit sales to protect the jobs of remaining employees".

Grindlays' profits fall

Profits of Grindlays Holdings, the quoted company which owns 51 per cent of Grindlays Bank, fell last year from £37.28m to £34.77m. After tax and extraordinary expenses, profits are down from £17.76m to £15.39m. The dividend for the year has been lifted from 5.35p gross a share to 5.9p. The board says that profitability was affected by the strength of sterling and higher provisions for bad debts.

Financial Editor, page 25

£4m investment

BP Chemicals is to invest £4m in new plant for its Hythe Chemicals subsidiary, near Southampton, as part of the development of its business into smaller-volume, higher-value chemicals. Output of hydroxypropyl methacrylate, used in paints for the car industry, will be expanded. More than 200 jobs will be secured by the investment programme.

Escort output halted

Production of the new Escort has been halted for the third time in a week by unofficial action at the £125m Ford car plant at Halewood, on Merseyside. A total of 3,500 men in the body and assembly plants had to be sent home on Monday night after a walkout by six men in the body shop over a manning issue.

Port redundancies

The Dock Labour Board at Hull yesterday agreed to make application to the National Board for authority to seek up to 320 voluntary redundancies from the registered port labour force because of the serious labour surplus.

Berlei to close plant

Berlei, the brassiere makers, is to close its Portsmouth factory at the end of May with the loss of 200 jobs.

Foden pay-out

Creditors of Fodens, the Cheshire truck manufacturer which went into receivership last July, will get only 10p for every pound of the £20m owed to them, the liquidators announced yesterday.

Wall Street down

The Dow Jones industrial average closed at 966.02, down 11.97 on Wall Street yesterday. The $=SDR exchange rate was 1.21366 while the £=SDR rate was 0.556342.

Britain accuses EEC partners of subsidizing energy prices

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, March 3

Britain today accused the French and West German governments of charging uneconomically low gas and electricity prices to their manufacturers, thereby giving them a competitive advantage.

After a meeting here of European Community energy and industry ministers, Mr Norman Lamont, Britain's junior minister at the Department of Energy, said "we are not convinced that economic pricing of electricity is always being followed in other Community countries".

The European Commission is undertaking a comparative study of energy pricing policies in the EEC and is expected to report it to the ministers at their next meeting in June.

Mr Lamont said he hoped the Commission would "begin investigating some of the facts" straightaway and that he expected its report to identify price differences and explain the reasons for them.

There was a swift denial of the British charges from M André Giraud, the French energy minister, who said: "I do not know where the British got this idea. It is quite simple, there are no price subsidies in France, and we have nothing whatever to fear from the Commission's report."

The exchanges came on the eve of the publication in Britain of a report by the National Economic Development Council (NEDC), which is expected to show that many British manufacturers are paying up to 40 per cent more for their electricity than their competitors in France and West Germany.

Mr Lamont said that Britain was not looking for harmonization of prices, but rather an agreement that prices should be "based on actual costs and should be economic".



Mr Lamont: not convinced on European pricing.

He believed that the West Germans and French were, in effect, subsidizing their industries through artificially low electricity prices.

Ministers agreed to pursue work on a scheme for pooling surplus oil stocks so as to provide a reserve supply on which individual member states could draw if suddenly faced with a shortfall.

Under present rules, the EEC's crisis mechanism for oil sharing is only triggered if there is a 7 per cent shortfall in the Community's total supplies.

The idea behind the new scheme, in the words of Mr Lamont, is to enable the EEC to respond "in the grey area before the 7 per cent threshold is reached", and thus reduce the danger of panic buying by member states on the spot market, which pushes up prices.

The European Commission, together with national officials, is to supervise preparatory work on the oil bank scheme with a view to making detailed proposals at the June ministerial meeting.

US urged to cut high interest rates

From Frank Vogl
US Economics Correspondent

Citibank and other big American banks have cut their prime lending rates to 18½ per cent from 19 per cent. However, other short-term rates moved up and it is these movements that are providing additional strength to the dollar in currency markets.

High American interest rates must be reduced because they are directly helping to push Europe into a recession, M. Rene Monory, the French economics minister, said. M Monory is in Washington this week for talks with the Reagan administration.

The rate for Federal funds was trading at about 16½ per cent today. At this level there is still ample scope for banks to cut their prime rates further, but the banks are unlikely to move until they see more clearly just what short-term policies the Federal Reserve Board plans and how these will influence the rate for Federal funds.

The Fed may intervene to slow the rise in the Federal funds rate by adding reserves to the system. Such action would lead quite swiftly to further prime rate reductions.

Increasing numbers of analysts believe that the economy will move into recession soon because of the austere Fed policies of recent months. Declines seen in the money supply recently have been greater than the markets expected and quite possibly greater than the Fed expected and may enable the Fed to add to reserves.

Latest figures for the week to February 18 show a decline in M1A on a seasonally adjusted annual basis of fully 22.1 per cent over 13 weeks previous, while M1B rose by only 1.3 per cent.

The Federal Reserve Bank of New York added reserves to the market to halt the climb in the Fed funds rate today. This was the first such action by the Fed since early January, but then today's rise in the Fed funds rate was most substantial.

Pound climbs back against dollar to close more than 2.5 cents up

By Frances Williams

The pound made an astonishing comeback on the foreign exchange markets yesterday, wiping out the whole of yesterday's fall against the dollar and gaining strongly on continental currencies.

Sterling climbed by more than 2.5 cents to end the day at $2.2060, and its effective exchange rate index, measured against a basket of leading currencies rose 0.8 to 99.5.

Dealers said that the pound had been the principal beneficiary of a weaker dollar, reflecting a downward revision in expectations on the size of a cut in minimum lending rate in next week's Budget away from 3 per cent or more towards 2 per cent.

The pound's recovery may come as a disappointment to the Government and to industry, to whom last month's slide of more than 5 per cent against its trade weighted currency basket portended some relief in terms of international competitiveness.

Sterling's fall in January could well be reflected in the figues on the United Kingdom's gold and foreign currency reserves published yesterday. These showed that the reserves rose by $40m (£18m) in the month to stand at a record $28,434m (£12,906m). But after taking account of additional public sector borrowing under the Exchange Cover Scheme the underlying change was marginally down, by $4m, the first fall for more than a year.

The underlying change includes Bank of England intervention in the foreign exchange markets as well as other transactions. Although the Bank's avowed policy is to intervene in the markets only to smooth fluctuations, the balance of intervention will have been to reduce the reserves by using foreign currency to buy sterling.

The dollar's weakness yesterday was attributed by some dealers to the latest cuts in prime rates by United States banks, but others said these moves were expected and did not alter their confidence that American interest rates will remain high. Eurodollar deposit rates were generally easier.

Fears that a possible 2 per cent cut in MLR might not be enough prompted further nervous selling of leading industrial shares in the stock market yesterday.

Sentiment was not helped by Unilever's decision to reduce its dividend payment to United Kingdom shareholders because of the currency discrepancy. Jobbers wiped 10p from the Unilever Ltd shares initially as investors "switched" into the NV shares. The price eventually closed 8p lower at 475p.

Falls were also seen in ICI down 2p at 248p, Beechams 1p to 161p, Tube Investments 6p to 190p and GEC 3p to 645p. However, cheap buying at the lower levels saw most prices close off the bottom with the FT Index 5.2 lower at 496.2, having been 7.2 down at 1 pm.

Government securities also saw nervous offerings with falls of £¼ recorded in some cases. Investors appeared unsettled by reports that the Government was unlikely to achieve the public sector spending cuts for 1981-82 originally hoped for.

Muslim law immunity claim on $16m loan

In a case with important ramifications for banking in Muslim countries a prominent borrower in Dubai, the Gulf shaikhdom which is a member of the United Arab Emirates, has sued a group of local and international banks alleging that under Muslim law he should not pay interest on a $16m loan.

Mr Muhammad bin-Khalifah al-Maktoum, a nephew of the ruler of Dubai, Shaikh Rashid, issued a writ to the syndicate of six banks, led by the National Bank of Abu Dhabi as agent, in February. The case has been adjourned in Abu Dhabi until March 12. The borrower is head of the Dubai Municipality Lands Department.

But since the loan contract originally specified that disputes would be heard under British law the syndicate has countersued in London. The case is being heard in the High Court this week.

The outcome is further complicated by a meeting today and tomorrow of the UAE federal cabinet at which the question of banks giving and receiving interest is believed to be on the agenda. Senior bankers think that the cabinet will decide in their favour.

Under religious law, the Sharia in Muslim countries, interest is often banned. The $16m loan was made to the borrower in 1978 in his personal capacity to build a new gold souk or market in Deira, part of Dubai.

The other banks involved are Emirates National Bank, Union Bank of the Middle East, Arab African International Bank, Banco Arabe Espanol, and UBAN Arab-Japanese Finance. When rents collapsed in Dubai, it became clear that interest payments would not be made. In January a principal payment of $1.9m was not met.

In his writ, the borrower has requested that principal repayments should be rescheduled. It is understood that he also wants the banks to take an equity interest in the souk, only a few shops of which have been let.

Banking sources believe that it is the first time so big a loan made internationally has been challenged on grounds of Sharia law. Most religious judges in Dubai have found against claims that interest should not be paid, although opinion in the Dhabi courts is divided.

Monopolies inquiry on Davy bid

By Andrew Goodrick-Clarke

A £143m takeover bid by Enserch Corporation, a Texas utility and oil exploration group, for Britain's largest process plant contractor, Davy Corporation has been referred to the Monopolies Commission.

This decision by Mr John Biffen, the new Trade Minister, naturally was welcomed by Davy and accepted as inevitable by the Enserch camp.

Assuming that Enserch decides to make its case for allowing the takeover before the commission—as it almost certainly will—the investigation has to be completed within six months.

The grounds for making the reference under the Fair Trading Act are that the assets of the combined grouping would exceed £15m, but the Office of Fair Trade had in mind potential employment and balance of payments consequences.

The OFT apparently was impressed by Davy's case that its technology was superior to that of Enserch; that it was an important buyer of British engineering equipment; and that it had gained valuable Eastern block contracts which might not be so readily available to a United States company.

This is the second important reference Mr Biffen has made to the commission within a week. Last Friday he asked for an investigation into Lonrho's bid for the department stores group, House of Fraser. He will shortly have to consider another bid by Lonrho—for the Observer newspaper.

But the commission has just completed its work on another controversial bid—that by S. & W. Berrisford, a commodity trading company which last year launched a £124m assault on British Sugar Corporaiton in which the Government holds a 24 per cent stake.

Financial Editor, page 25

Strong pound forces Unilever dividend cut

By Richard Allen

Unilever, the United Kingdom part of the huge Anglo-Dutch foods group, has been forced to cut its dividend because of the strength of sterling.

The final payment has been reduced by almost 8 per cent, to leave total dividends for the year down by almost 5 per cent to 32.7p gross. The move surprised the stock market and Unilever's shares fell 15p at one point before recovering to close 8p lower at 475p.

The dividend announcement coincided with the declaration in Holland of dividend increases totalling almost 13 per cent for holders of Unilever NV shares and reflects the effects of sterling's appreciation on the group's equalization policy. After a year in which the pound increased by more than a fifth against the guilder, Unilever would have to have increased its Dutch dividends by 20 per cent in order to maintain the United Kingdom payment.

A spokesman said last night that this could not be justified on trading grounds. The Dutch government also is understood to be exerting moral pressure on companies to constrain dividend increases against the background of a statutory wages policy.

Unilever is looking at ways in which its equalization policy could be adjusted to take account of future erratic currency movements.

The stock market was soothed by trading news from the group showing a 13 per cent profits jump to £142.2m in the fourth quarter.

Adjustments for sterling's strength stripped £61m from full-year profits to leave them 6 per cent down at £567.7m. The group said that despite the recession consumer products business was holding up well in Europe, but chemicals, plastics and packaging underwent a particularly difficult fourth quarter.

Shares of Shell fell back 6p to 418p yesterday on fears that the group which operates a similar equalization policy to that of Unilever may also be forced to cut its United Kingdom final when it reports next week.

Financial Editor, page 25

Japan may abandon export code

Tokyo, March 3.—Japan is ready to drop its restraints on providing low-cost loan subsidies for exporting plant and equipment.

The Government is close to formal agreement on a number of steps which would permit Japanese plant exporters to take advantage of government aid combined with Export-Import Bank financing to secure a greater share of overseas contracts.

The Government's move means it has decided to abandon the guidelines covering export credits that had been set by the OECD, ending its previous policy to adhere to the rules despite the absence of a formal agreement.

The move follows the collapse in Paris in December of a "gentlemen's agreement" placing curbs on using low-interest loans to win large projects overseas, especially in Third World countries.

Japanese business has pressured the Tokyo Government into easing regulations which prohibited the mixing of Ex-Im bank financing with soft loans as low as 3.25 per cent from the Overseas Economic Cooperation fund.

The Government is expected to promote the use of the mixed credits by Japanese companies bidding on projects worth less than $100m. Previously the subsidies could be used only for plants costing more than that.

Japanese companies have complained they are losing business to European competition because other countries are more willing to provide cheaper credit to promote the efforts of their plant exporters. The Government is likely to announce its plans to boost the economy some time in mid-March and the export promotion steps will be a key part of the package.—Reuter.

Joint projects: Talks are well advanced between the Export Credits Guarantee Department and the Japanese Ministry of International Trade and Industry on a joint insurance agreement that would introduce flexibility into government financing of Anglo-Japanese projects in third countries (Derek Harris writes).

This was disclosed in London yesterday at the end of a two-day conference between the Engineering Employers' Federation (EEF) and a team of senior industrialists from member companies of the Japan Machinery Exporters' Association, aimed at fostering projects in third countries between British and Japanese companies.

C & W shares sale moves nearer

By Patricia Tisdall
Management Correspondent

Disposal of government shares in the state owned Cable and Wireless company moved a step closer yesterday.

After a lengthy debate, the standing Commons committee dealing with the Telecommunications Bill approved the clause which will enable the Secretary of State for Industry to sell off shares.

Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister of State for Industry said that he expected to make a Parliamentary statement detailing the Government's disposal plans as soon as consultations with certain Commonwealth governments were completed. He expected this to occur "in a very short time indeed" but would not be drawn on details of the scheme until these consultations were ended.

Arguing against proposed amendments which would have prevented the sale of shares to other than British citizens, Mr Baker pointed out that this would prevent employees from purchasing "a stake in their business".

He said that three-quarters of the company's employees are either based overseas or foreign nationals, and that most of the company's assets are located abroad.

Mr Baker refuted accusations that the Government was acting out of "dogmatism".

He did not say what proportion of shares the Government envisaged selling, but argued that mixed ownership could "enable the company to tap funds for its own expansion".

Answering what he described as a "rather cheeky" amendment that any disposal should be delayed until at least January 1985 to allow "time to adjust", Mr Baker denied that the sale of shares would cause any damage.

Shareholders in textiles group to pay £410,000

By Rosemary Unsworth

A group of shareholders including the chairman of Robert Kitchen Taylor, a textiles and property group, are paying the company £410,000 in settlement of a claim started in 1979 by two other shareholders.

A High Court action was started by two independent shareholders on behalf of the company after Mr W. S. Hersham, the former chairman, left Robert Kitchen Taylor and settled a debt he owed the group by the transfer of 750,000 ordinary shares.

The shares were then placed by a trustee at 10p each, the par value, with 10 individual shareholders, including Mr E. G. Libby, the present chairman, and Mr D. E. Gourlay and Mr T. B. Nightingale, the joint managing directors.

At 10p, the price represented a discount on the group's share price in the market and the litigation was over the timing of the placing.

The company has since taken over conduct of the proceedings and a committee consisting of two directors uninvolved in the case, Mr John Norton and Mr A. M. Crook, helped negotiate a settlement which has to be approved by shareholders at an extrordinary meeting in two weeks' time.

The settlement figure includes costs which were about £40,000 and the original cost of the shares, £75,000.

The company has not decided yet on how to treat the money in the accounts and it is not clear whether there will be any tax liability.

Last year Robert Kitchen Taylor, which has announced its intention of developing its property side, produced pretax profits of £638,000 compared with the previous year's £1.9m.

EEC ministers agree plan for competitive steel industry

From Our Own Correspondent
Brussels, March 3

EEC member states agreed tonight on the broad outlines of a new strategy for eliminating surplus production capacity in the Community's crisis-ridden steel industry, and making it internationally competitive again.

In a statement issued after a special meeting here, economics and industry ministers of the Ten said the "deep and lasting crisis" in the steel industry could "only be overcome at the cost of large reductions in global capacity for crude steel and finished products".

The ministers, including Mr Norman Tebbit, Britain's Industry Minister, expressed their "opinion that no further public aid schemes in favour of the steel industry should be introduced after July 1, 1983".

A warning was also given by the ministers to steel enterprises that they must agree by April 1 this year on voluntary restrictions on steel sales to replace the system of compulsory production quotas currently in force but due to expire on June 30.

Later Mr Tebbit said: "If they do not reach a voluntary agreement, they are going to be in very, very deep trouble indeed. But if they want to commit suicide, either individually or collectively, it is us to them."

The West Germans made clear that in no circumstances would they agree to any extension beyond June of the existing compulsory production controls. In the absence of a voluntary agreement, a return to what M André Giraud, the French minister, described as "cut-throat anarchy" would appear unavoidable.

The mood of the meeting was further reinforced by a threat from Dr Otto Lambdorff, the German economics minister, that his government might impose countervailing duties on steel imports from other EEC countries which continued to subsidize production.

Earlier a human dimension had been introduced into the remote and clinical deliberations of the Council of Ministers when Welsh steel workers threatened with redundancy staged a protest outside the conference chamber, and sang "Sospan Fach", the battle hymn of Welsh rugby fans.

There were scuffles with security guards as a dozen members of the works council of Duport's steel works at Llanelli—which is faced with closure and loss of 1,091 jobs in two weeks' time—tried to get into the meeting to present a request for financial aid to the Council.

Inside EEC industry and economics ministers, under the chairmanship of Mr Gijsbert Van Aardenne of Holland, were discussing the plan for a coordinated reduction in steel production capacity and the phasing-out of state subsidies to the industry.

As part of the proposed plan, the European Commission would also tighten up its monitoring of aid to the industry to ensure that no assistance would be granted "to preserve obsolete capacities or to enterprises which do not make necessary efforts to restructure by reducing net capacities".

The Commission would also use its powers under the European Coal and Steel Community Treaty to grant loans for steel investment programmes "only where projects achieve a satisfactory degree of restructuring", and would fine steel firms found guilty of unfair price-cutting.

As the meeting dragged on into the evening, the Llanelli workers were still waiting for a promised meeting with Mr Van Aardenne. They did, however, succeed in getting a letter sent in.

In it the workers described their plant as "one of the most modern, efficient and competitive in Europe" and said the speed of its proposed closure was unacceptable. They called for "recognition that the European budget must assist us in the same way as the Common Agricultural Policy has protected farmers in the Community".

Specifically, the Welsh steelworkers want the Council of Ministers to approve a scheme of temporary aid that would keep the plant in operation until the economic situation improved.

The Llanelli men say that, although the Duport plant is three times more efficient than the British Steel equivalent, the corporation has been able to use its state subsidy to market its products at artificially low prices, undercutting the private sector.

Cost disadvantage, page 24

PRICE CHANGES

Rises

Boustead	4p to 142p	Schroders	5p to 360p
Electrolux	23p to 935p	Sun Alliance	12p to 804p
Kinross	20p to 531p	Ultramar	8p to 493p
Jourdan	5p to 91p	Unitech	4p to 248p
Samuel H	5p to 255p		

Falls

Anglo Am Corp	15p to 581p	Imp Cont Gas	15p to 233p
Davy Corp	14p to 148p	Nthgate Explor	15p to 305p
Ferranti	10p to 545p	Philips Lamps	20p to 347p
Gerrard & Nat	8p to 313p	UC Investment	15p to 450p
Husky Oil	10p to 635p	Unilever	8p to 475p

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	1.95	1.87
Austria Sch	35.20	33.00
Belgium Fr	81.75	77.75
Canada $	2.69	2.60
Denmark Kr	15.45	14.65
Finland Mkk	9.40	8.90
France Fr	11.48	10.98
Germany DM	4.90	4.66
Greece Dr	117.00	111.00
Hongkong $	12.05	11.45
Ireland Pd	1.33	1.27
Italy Lir	2360.00	2250.00
Japan Yn	482.00	455.00
Netherlands Gld	5.41	5.15
Norway Kr	12.50	11.85
Portugal Esc	127.00	121.00
South Africa Rd	2.05	1.91
Spain Pta	194.50	185.50
Sweden Kr	10.69	10.14
Switzerland Fr	4.51	4.28
USA $	2.23	2.16
Yugoslavia Dnr	83.00	77.50

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

New study suggests revenue loss smaller than widely supposed

Black economy richer in fiction than in fact

There can be few people who have not had some experience of the "black" economy, or what the late Lord Armstrong, the former head of the Treasury, used to call the "Black and Decker" economy.

Similar anecdotes about "black" transactions can be heard in any public bar, whether they be about the man who services cars on a Sunday and insists on cash; the hairdresser who does home perms in the evening; or the electrician who re-wires houses at the weekend. If the income derived from these activities is not reported, in order to avoid tax, then they constitute part of the black economy.

The prevalence of the anecdotes might suggest that such activity is very considerable and growing rapidly. But, as the authors of a new study of the subject say: "... the black economy can be large enough to yield a rich vein of anecdotes without necessarily being a phenomenon of quantitative significance".

Most black economy purchases are made by the household sector, and a black economy of even 3 per cent of Britain's gross national product would imply the average household spent £300 a year on black economy goods. In fact, the very tentative conclusion of the survey suggests that although a substantial proportion of the population may participate in the black economy, it accounts for no more than 2 or 3 per cent of national income. This is about £3,200m at 1977 prices.

The study, undertaken by Andrew Dilnot and Nick Morris of the Institute for Fiscal Studies, will be published in the institute's quarterly journal Fiscal Studies next Monday. Their calculation of the size of the black economy is a good deal less than the widely quoted estimate of Sir William Pile, the former chairman of the Board of Inland Revenue, that black transactions might possibly have amounted to 7½ per cent of gross domestic product in 1977. This would have been equivalent to something over £10,000m at that time.

The Dilnot-Morris calculations are based on an analysis of the Family Expenditure Survey which is carried out by the Government.

In a paper prepared for Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor, the Civil Service unions, which estimate the black economy to be of the order of 7½ per cent of the gdp, are calling for a more spirited attack on undeclared income (as reported in The Times on Monday). Naturally, this would require many more tax inspectors.

The Dilnot-Morris study, in fact, includes two types of black economy activity: tax evasion and social security fraud. It provides some support for the suggestion that tax evasion is a substantially greater problem than benefit abuse. It also finds that the self-employed of all types are the most likely to be involved in black economy.

Melvyn Westlake

Car industry could die in 5 years union says

The British car industry will be dead within five years without import controls, Transport and General Workers' Union leaders told a meeting of car workers and MPs at the House of Commons yesterday.

Mr Fred Blake, secretary of the union's vehicle building and automotive group, pointed out that other countries already operated strict controls.

France allowed only three per cent of its market to be taken by foreign cars. In Italy a reciprocal, one-for-one arrangement was allowed and it was difficult to get cars into Spain at all, he said.

Mr Greville Hawley, a TGWU national officer and leader of the British Leyland union negotiating team, said the unions should insist on a manufacturing base being mainatined in this country with agreements on reciprocal sales outlets.

If there had to be an agreement on assembling foreign cars in Britain, 40 per cent of the parts should be British made.

The Union is campaigning on a four-point platform urging controls on vehicle imports and foreign-built components, more apprenticeships and training for adults, more job security and job opportunities and shorter working hours and extended holiday periods.

The union said 33,547 foreign cars were registered in Britain during 1980. In early January this year Japanese importers accounted for fifteen per cent of total sales.

With as many cars awaiting British registration, they feared that the figure would reach twenty per cent in the first few weeks of the year.

Car workers at the meeting said there was spare capacity in British plants.

Stock Exchange Prices

Selling of blue chips

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 2 Dealings End, March 13. § Contango Day, March 16. Settlement Day, March 23

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS

MEDIUMS

LONGS

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

DOLLAR STOCKS

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A—B

C—E

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
111	35	ERF Hldgs	55	..	..e	..	..
70	44	E Lancs Paper	53	..	6.8	12.9	2.3
95	65	E Mid A Press 'A'	90	..	4.6	5.2	7.7
101	71	Eastern Prod	74	..	6.6	8.9	5.2
136	33	Edbro	41	..	..b	..	2.6
68	56	Eleco Hldgs	66	..	4.7	7.1	8.7
85½	53½	EIS	88	-½	5.4	6.1	5.3
795	413	Electrocomps	673	..	13.6	2.0	18.8

F—H

I—L

M—N

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
255	145	Man Ship Canal	155	-3	..	..	..
36	22	Mang Bronze	33	-1	3.1	9.4	8.0
28	9½	Manor Nat	10½	-½	..	..	3.0
100	67	Marchwiel	93	-1	8.6	9.2	7.2
125	76	Marks & Spencer	123	..	4.9	4.0	17.4
49	36½	Marley Ltd	39½	-¼	3.2	8.1	9.0
28	14½	Marling Ind	16½	..	1.3	7.7	4.8
37	22	Marshall T Lox	26	+¼	4.0	15.3	4.1

O—S

T—Z

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price
125	51	UKO Int	55
137	92	Unigate	106
513	395	Unilever	475
16⅞	13½	Do NV	£15¼
363	188	Unitech	248
92½	68	Utd Biscuit	87
34	19	Utd City Merc	23
176	88	Utd Eng	151

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

SHIPPING

MINES

OIL

PROPERTY

RUBBER

TEA

MISCELLANEOUS

RECENT ISSUES

RIGHTS ISSUES

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Unilever's unkind cut

Unilever's British wing has joined ICI in jolting the market with a final dividend cut which reduces the total payment for last year by almost 5 per cent to 32.7 per cent. The difference, though, is that Unilever's shareholders are victims not of recession but *of the unprecedented* strength of sterling against the Dutch guilder.

Unilever NV *has in fact increased its* dividend by almost 13 per cent after a year in which the group's recession-proof characteristics have been demonstrated by a 4 per cent improvement in profits to £628m pre-tax before currency adjustments.

On this basis the fourth quarter has *proved particularly* good with a 13 per cent jump to £142m although comparisons are fudged by the EEC butter *dumping debacle* in the corresponding period.

Adjusting for sterling's 20 per cent appreciation, however, the pre-tax outturn falls to £567.7m and British shareholders are left *with scant reward in dividend terms.*

Under Unilever's equalization agreement, maintaining the United Kingdom payment would have meant increasing the NV dividend by almost a fifth. That the board could not countenance on trading grounds even without moral pressure from the Dutch *Government for sobriety.*

At least Unilever is well aware of the problem and is looking at possible adjustments to equalization to enable more flexibility in the future. It is difficult to see, however, how such adjustments could be made without opening up all sorts of *arbitrage problems.*

Meanwhile, Unilever's fourth-quarter *trading has followed the pattern of previous* months with good results in margarine, oil milling and detergents, offset by severe problems in chemicals, paper and plastics and packaging.

An annual volume gain of 2.5 per cent has been achieved with further pressure on margins and hopes *of this pressure abating* in the current year could be fairly slight.

Even so, hopes of a fairly sharp upturn as Europe comes out of recession should ensure the shares stabilize after yesterday's 8p fall to 475p, where a near 7 per cent yield offers a surprising 1 point premium over the all-share index.

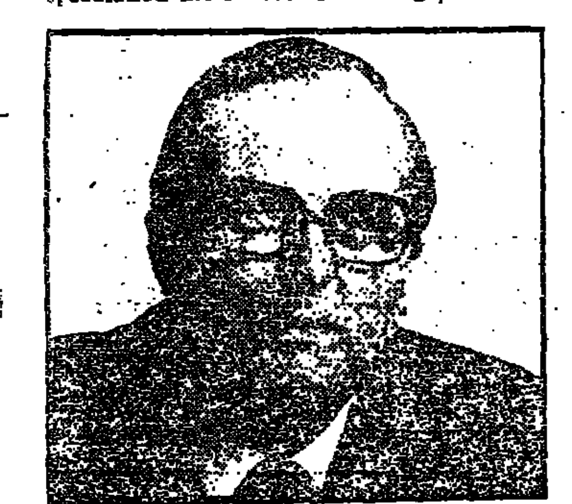
Shell shares, meanwhile, fell 6p to 418p *yesterday on the view that that group will* be caught in the same equalization trap when it announces its dividend next week.

Grindlays

A speculative background

For several months now the market has placed its faith in an eventual bid for Grindlays Holdings or Grindlays Bank or *both* rather than on any fundamentals.

And just as well for present shareholders, some of whom seem to have jumped aboard ahead of yesterday's results, for without the speculation the shares of Holdings, the only



Mr Nigel Robson, chairman of Grindlays.

ones quoted, would have been a great deal lower than today. It is even questionable that even with a bid whether, at current levels, there is much to go for anyway.

The belief that *sooner or later the knotty* relationship between Lloyds Bank and Citibank will be untangled is, however, likely to prove true sooner or later. Lloyds Bank has a 41.4 per cent share in Grindlays Holdings which in turn owns, as practically its only asset, a 51 per cent share in the bank. The *51 other per cent are held by* the American Citibank. Put another way, Lloyds Bank need not hurry until a deal it likes comes along.

The 1980 results, announced yesterday, are below the worst City expectations. Pre-tax *profits of Holdings—they are virtually* the same for the bank—turn out at £37.1m as against £34.7m in 1979. Most of the fall was in the second half when profits slipped by over £2m. Although the dividend is fractionally lifted it is nothing like the increases made by the clearers.

Grindlays it is true uses the dollar as its main currency and last year's strength of *sterling contributed to the fall. This year* a weaker sterling should help the group to show higher profits. The *other major change* has been in specific provisions for bad debts which at £3.5m are nearly £2m higher than in 1979 when a substantial debt recovery took place.

This year results should be better. After the raising of $100m of new subordinate loan stocks to replace $60m of old ones Grindlays can expand faster its business. But even so on fundamental merits the shares at 178p yielding only 3.2 per cent, nearly a third of the yield offered by some *clearers, and a fully taxed PE ratio of 6.8,* half as much as the clearers, look expensive *on any view but that of a generous bid.*

Enserch/Davy

The inevitable reference

A reference to the Monopolies Commission of the Enserch bid for Davy Corporation *appeared inevitable from the outset.* Davy's case for independence has been that it is the remaining pure process plant contractor in Britain; that its value to the United Kingdom engineering sector is greater than it appears on the surface in that it is a substantial buyer of equipment, and that *Enserch is a relatively unknown and, perhaps,* opportunistic, United States bidder whose motives and capacity to absorb an important company like Davy were worthy of investigation. All this duly carried the argument.

So the bid will not be resolved until *the autumn.* The Commission has six months to report and its investigation, taking it *into extremely technical areas, promises to* be one of the most complex undertaken.

Enserch has to consider whether it will take its case to the Commission, but it knew the score before it started this one and it can be assumed that it will maintain its interest in acquiring Davy, a prospect which *will sustain Davy's share price*—down 14p to 148p yesterday—in the face of pretty dismal trading prospects.

AAH

Coming through the recession

AAH has kept profits moving ahead for the past thirteen years but this time it will be touch and go whether it can beat last time's £9.1m before tax. In the nine months to the *end of 1980 pretax profits were just up* from £6.46m to £6.49m and earnings showed *a similar small increase* to £2.9m, thanks to lower minority interests offsetting the proportionately higher tax charge under the new stock relief rules.

The weather and its impact on solid fuel demand will probably decide whether AAH does slightly better or worse for the full year. *But the one-tenth increase in the interim* dividend, which seems likely to be *repeated* with the final, suggests that AAH is fairly confident.

Unfashionable though conglomerates may be, it is AAH's spread of interests which are enabling it to weather the recession so well. *Road haulage, engineering* and builders' supplies have slipped back by *varying degrees* and trading profits from fuel oil more than halved from £1.6m to £0.7m, although comparison is with an exceptional period when margins were inflated by oil shortages.

But nearly doubled profits from pharmaceutical wholesaling where margins have recovered *sharply and a £1.4m rise to £3.7m* from solid fuels have more than made up the difference. The increase in solid fuels included large stock profits on the domestic side but even so the prospects here—the area of the business which *AAH had been* diversifying away from in past years—look *increasingly good* following the oil crises of the past decade. But AAH's failure to win Renwick and with it the other half of Western Fuel was a disappointment.

Up 3p to 190p where the likely yield is 7 per cent, the shares are *sound enough,* given the good record and solid prospects.

Adrienne Gleeson

Companies slip into the poverty trap

> "Tax exhaustion is at once one of the causes and one of the symptoms of British industrial anaemia"

One of the problems which the Chancellor will have to tackle at some point—and could tackle in the Budget—is the "tax exhaustion" now besetting many British companies.

The complaint arises not because *companies pay too* much tax, but because they are liable to too little. They are liable to so little because they are making next to nothing in the way of profits, and in consequence the normal investment incentives have, in many cases, no immediate value. So tax exhaustion is at once one of the causes and one of the symptoms of British industrial anaemia.

It manifests itself in the form of unused and unusable tax reliefs and allowances. Of these there are four that cause particular concern.

In the first place there are the first-year allowances, designed to encourage investment in *new plant* and machinery. Secondly, there is stock appreciation relief, recently the subject of new proposals from the Inland Revenue, but still *basically designed to relieve* companies of the need to pay tax on increases in stock values caused by inflation.

Then there *are* interest charges, normally an allowable expense "above the line" and, finally, rather different in *nature* though not in effect there is the relief, against the full year's tax bill, for advance corporation tax (ACT) *paid* during the year on dividend distributions.

Under normal circumstances a company can set off against its taxable *profits expenditure* on new plant and machinery, on maintaining the same level of stocks and on paying its interest charges, thereby cutting its tax bill, boosting its cash flow and reducing the effective cost of such expenditure.

At present, cash flow considerations are irrelevant (except in the case of ACT), because in most cases there is no tax to pay anyway. But effective cost is still a significant factor in management decisions and, where there is no tax bill against which to set reliefs and allowances, the *effective cost of such expenditure* could have very nearly doubled.

So a company with taxable profits against which to set its interest charges effectively knocks the charge down by the rate of corporation tax. A *company with no taxable profits* has to pay the same amount to the bank but saves no tax on the deal.

The Confederation of British Industry's tax committee, reflecting on the spread of this anomaly, produced an *amendment to last year's Finance Bill* proposing that the banks should charge interest net of the rate of corporation tax and that they in turn should suffer no tax on *the income.* But the scheme—which was similar to the "Business Start" scheme which *Barclays subsequently produced* for small companies—died the death before the Bill became law.

While the CBI still pursues *the idea,* it does so somewhat tentatively. This owes something to uncertainty about the clearing banks' response, because such a scheme might *supersede their leasing* business, which has flourished in part because it provides a way for tax exhausted companies to obtain the benefits of first-year allowances without actually paying for themselves.

But the tentative approach owes *still more* perhaps to a gloomy if realistic assumption that the size and intractability of the problem is likely to deter the Chancellor from doing anything about tax exhausted companies at all.

The size of the problem is *indeed* formidable. Largely thanks to the introduction of stock relief in 1974 very few companies now pay any mainstream corporation tax at all; and, *while there are ways and* means of using allowances when there are no taxable profits to set them off against, *they* are so tightly restricted, to prevent tax avoidance, that most companies have no option but to allow their unused allowances *to pile up.*

They can, of course, be carried forward indefinitely, except in the case of stock relief, which under last November's proposals from the Inland Revenue is subject to a six-year time limit. It is estimated that there are now some £30,000m of unused allowances being carried forward to set off against taxable profits in the future.

That is a problem for two of the interested parties. First, it *is a problem for the Chancellor,* who not only has to live with the fact that the yield on corporation tax is very low at the moment, but must also recognize that it is likely to continue low when taxable profits start *to recover.*

It is possible to interpret the six-year time limit on carrying forward stock relief as the first salvo in a battle to limit the capacity of companies to use tomorrow the allowances that they cannot use today.

Secondly, it is a problem for *the companies involved,* who could ideally do with a tax refund now rather than allowances later. *Given that this one* is almost certainly a non-starter, they could at least do with some action on ACT.

Unlike the other reliefs and allowances, which may *not* help cash flow when there is no tax to set them off against, but at least do not reduce it, payment of advance corporation tax actually cuts the amount of cash at the disposal of companies. When it subsequently emerges that there is insufficient main*stream corporation* tax payable against which to offset the tax already paid (which, it is estimated, happens in respect of one third of all payments, *worth some £600m a year*), it is no consolation that the damage done to cash flow when times are hard may be remedied as things grow easier over the longer term.

For companies with no taxable profits it must be more obvious than for most that in the longer term we shall all be dead.

With most of the obvious solutions to the ACT problem *(eg, cutting the rate)* subject to complications, it looks at present as if even this small mercy is likely to be denied to the corporate sector. In fact, the Chancellor is most likely to shelve the whole question of tax exhaustion, possibly with a *reference to the long forecast* and still receding Green Paper on the reform of corporation tax.

For those companies that survive the recession, of course, the whole question will sort itself out in time. But the time *required may be the longer,* because except in the case of those companies which are making taxable profits already, the normal tax incentives for investment have no immediate value. And some companies will not be able to survive so long.

Russian economy: a determination to muddle through

Moscow

The age of expansion is over. The Russians can no longer raise their standard of living by ploughing up the virgin lands, *exploiting* ever larger amounts of raw materials, adding yearly to the labour force and investing huge sums in *new projects.* The economy is in trouble and only harder work and a more efficient use of resources will ensure continued growth.

This was the blunt message given by the Soviet leadership to the 5,000 delegates who took part in the twenty-sixth Congress of the Soviet Communist Party, *which has just ended.* There is no crisis, President Brezhnev and Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, the *prime minister,* insisted, but it will need a enormous effort to overcome the problems now facing the country.

The key words now are thrift and productivity. "The economy must be economical", said President Brezhnev in his lengthy report last week and later in the week Mr Tikhonov outlined the savings that had to be made in fuel, raw materials, plant and labour.

He gave some idea of the *scale and urgency of this in* a striking comparison when he said that the regearing of the economy to more intensive development was a task as monumental as the entire industrialization of the country achieved during Stalin's time.

Everything must be subordinated to the aim of making the economy more intensive and achieving higher production output with smaller inputs and less resources.

This appears to be seen by the ageing leadership as the only *acceptable way of dealing with* what they acknowledge as the increasingly complex problems of the Soviet economy with its sluggish growth rate, stagnating productivity, unproductive agriculture and labour shortages in the key industrial areas.

Other more radical solutions, such as decentralization and greater responsibility for individual factories along the lines of the abortive 1965 proposals, have long been ruled out because of the political upheavals they would cause and the fears in Moscow that in a country so vast the central

> Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, the Soviet prime minister (right), says that the task is as monumental as the entire industrialization of the country under Stalin



apparatus would rapidly lose control.

In his hard-hitting opening *speech last week Mr Brezhnev* touched on some of the other pressing problems, whose solution is as much political as economic, in particular what *can be called the "vicious triangle"*—falling population in the developed west of Russia, boundless resources but few inhabitants and com*munications in eastern* Siberia and a young and burgeoning population but no *industrial* base or raw materials in the Muslim south.

Mr Brezhnev called, rather half-heartedly, for incentives to encourage the central Asian *population to move to Siberia* to fill the labour vacuum, but few Russians believe that large-scale migration is either practical or politically desirable.

The *solutions* proposed over the past eight days—harder and more intensive work—satisfy the *disciplinarians* who hanker for the days of Stalin when Soviet workers were both more *cowed and more motivated and* achieved the industrialization of the country.

There have been repeated calls for greater labour discipline and a general tightening up of the laws on employment and payment. The party leaders' reports *hint that this is coming,* but offer little more that would seem to make Mr Tikhonov's call for an intensifation on the scale of the industrialization of *the 1930s possible.*

There is still not enough incentive to earn higher wages as long as there are so few consumer goods to spend the money on; and though consumer goods are now to take priority, it will take some years *before their output increases to* satisfy even a fraction of the demand.

The solution therefore seems to be a determination to muddle through, making the present system work as best it can by simply improving efficiency.

From now on, according to Mr Tikhonov, growth will *depend almost entirely on* increased productivity. In industry this has to go up by about 24 per cent over the next five years (compared with 17 per cent in the last five year plan) and by 23 per cent in agriculture and 16 per cent in construction.

Mr Tikhonov said that substantial economies would have to be made in the use of raw materials, especially fuel, whose production was costing more and more as the Russians had to go further afield to the remote areas of northern and eastern Siberia in order to meet *their requirements.*

To cut out the present waste of resources and subsequent *large losses* tight restrictions will now be imposed on industry. Every ministry and factory in the country will be given savings targets, so that over the *next five years the Russians* will save some 165 million tonnes of fuel and energy.

Mr Tikhanov called for more effective use of fixed assets and gave warning that if factories did not phase out obsolete plant, they would face *penalties.*

Quality control—something that has eluded the Russians for years in spite of repeated exhortations—had to be improved. Both Mr Tikhonov and Mr Brezhnev spoke of the poor quality of consumer goods, their *sloppy finish* and bad design, and said that it should be a matter of *pride to produce* articles for the population that were attractive and brought *pleasure to people's homes.*

For the first time the Russians have given consumer goods priority over heavy industry, reflecting the increasingly acute problem of unsatisfied consumer demand. Food supplies are also to be improved under a new crash food programme, but Mr *Tikhonov admitted that* the tasks facing Soviet agriculture which now swallows almost a third of all Soviet investment, were "very formidable".

Cutting waste was the first priority—especially of such things as grain, potatoes, vegetables, meat and milk.

The Soviet leaders gave a *warning that the state could not* afford to go on pouring huge sums of money into agriculture without a better return on its investment.

The congress heard the *expected* warnings to Soviet workers to work harder and more responsibly. Breaches of discipline could not be tolerated.

The Soviet leaders gave strong hints that in future wages would be tied more closely to output—those who worked harder would be able to earn more, while idlers would have their wages cut.

Mr Brezhnev admitted that in spite of *all this the general* outlook for the Soviet economy was not very promising. Part of the reason lay with the world economic situation and spiralling prices, which he said were making themselves felt in the domestic economy. There were also too many ingrained habits and the force of inertia left over from the time when it was more important for the Soviet economy to expand quantitatively *than qualitatively.*

But there was apparently no need for any economic reform: the party's economic strategy, Mr Brezhnev asserted, was correct. He and Mr Tikhonov gave glowing promises of what would be achieved in the next five *years—an average wage rise of* 14 per cent, more roads, railways, housing, social amenities, consumer goods, higher pensions, better medical facilities, new family allowances and pensions and better social services.

The Soviet leaders rejected *western "slander" that the* economy was in a state of crisis.

To avoid the embarrassment of being pinned down to long-term promises, the congress deleted all references in the 1961 party programme, drawn up under Nikita Khrushchev, to *catching up and overtaking the* West. The Soviet leadership explained that it was "impossible and inappropriate" to foretell particulars. Communism might eventually guarantee the good life—but not just yet, it seemed.

Michael Binyon

Business Diary: What welcome for Walters? • TGWU's Bevin boy

A prophet is not without honour, save in his own country, and in his own house, says the gospel according to St Matthew.

Alan Walters, the British prophet of monetarism, has re*turned from* Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, in the United States, to great honour in his own country as spiritual counsellor to Mrs Thatcher.

In July, Walters proceeds to further honour, if not in his *own house* then in his own home town, Leicester, when he is to be awarded an honorary doctorate of his *alma mater,* the local university.

However, such is the *esteem* in which Thatcherism is held in those parts that the award will be conferred over, if not the dead, then the considerably disgruntled bodies of members of the Labour-controlled city council, *the university students'* union and members of the university council itself.

A motion deploring the lack of involvement of the university council in proffering the award is to be tabled by non-professorial staff at the next meeting three weeks today.

The main support for Walters comes from the vice-chancellor, Maurice Shock. The opposition comes from a coalition of those disliking Shock, the cuts in university spending and the award of honours to the politically contentious.



Rachel Terry.

Few people make the switch between local government and the City and it is particularly unusual for a woman to head for what is still very much a man's world. None the less, Rachel Terry is giving up her job as head of the Greater London Council's borrowing section for the arcane world of sterling money brokers Butler Till; and it certainly looks like local government's loss and the City's gain.

At the GLC Mrs Terry, a 33-year-old maths and philosophy graduate from Nottingham University, has managed £2,500m of borrowing at a time of burgeoning council spending. Every year she has to refinance £400m-500m of that total somewhere in the City and, as Butler Till is one of the specialists in local authority finance, it will have had every opportunity of sizing Mrs Terry up.

Evidently, the money brokers liked what they saw and Mrs Terry is being recruited to the "specialist finance team"—a sort of four-strong think tank which aims to see whether practices in the various money markets can be transplanted one to the other.

Starting off as a computer specialist at the GLC Mrs Terry moved into the finance department almost by accident, when she recommended that the best value for money that could be given by the "value for money unit" set up as a result of the Layfield Committee on local authority finance was for it to be disbanded.

The only job in finance at her level that did not require an accountancy qualification was to look after the GLC's overdraft.

She is best known in local authority circles as a joint secretary of the Treasury committee on local authority borrowing, where she has been dealing with the twin problems of lengthening debt and of improving the marketability of local authority loans.

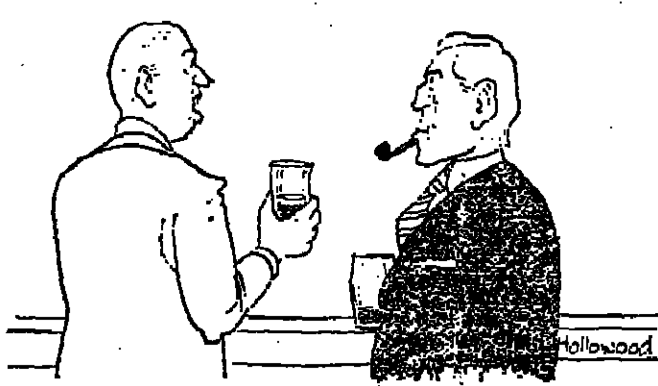
● Britain's biggest union, the Transport and *General* Workers (more than two million members), is going into publishing in quite a big way this month.

On Friday it is to publish a biography* of its founder, Ernest Bevin, and later this month the union is to help publicize a children's book, presumably published in pursuance of the Jesuit maxim "Catch 'em young", entitled *What is a Union?***, by Althea Braithwaite. TGWU general secretary, Moss Evans, will speak at its launch.

The Bevin biography marks *the centenary of Bevin's birth* next Saturday and is by—wait for it—not a union man, but Mark Stephens, who until recently was an official of the West Midlands Engineering Employers' Association.

Stephens approached the TGWU with the idea of writing the book after seeing a letter in *The Times* from Evans's predecessor, Jack Jones, aboutthe need to cele*brate in fitting manner* the centenary of Bevin's birth.

* *Ernest Bevin: Unskilled Labourer and World Statesman,* by Mark Stephens; TGWU, 95p.
***What is a Union?* By Althea Braithwaite; Dinosaur Publica*tions, 70p paperback,* £1.85 hardback.



"Times change. I can remember when minimum lending rate—Bank rate, as it was—stood at 2 per cent for year after year. Now they are talking of cutting it by at least 3 per cent!"

● Wilmer & Pickering of K *Street, Washington DC,* take pleasure in announcing, their card says, that their name has again become Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering.

Furthermore, Wilmer & Pickering—oops, sorry, Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering—also take pleasure that Lloyd N. Cutler, Daniel Marcus, Sally Katzen, Deanne C. Siemer and William T. Lake "have again become members of the firm".

What has been going on at Wilmer & Pickering?

My researches took me to the firm's London offices and the *partner in charge,* Sam Lanahan, who told me that it is a nest of lawyers. The change of name and of partners was dictated by the fact that Messrs Cutler and Co left to join the Carter Administration.

Ronald Reagan having superseded him, they had now left to rejoin Wilmer & Pickering, which is where I came in.

There will be at least one dissenting voice today when Lonrho shareholders gather to approve their group's proposed takeover of House of Fraser—Fraser's managing director William Crossan, who owns 1,610 Lonrho shares, acquired when Lonrho bought Scottish and Universal Investments.

Ross Davies



£822m Italy ships deal with Iraq

Export authorization has finally been given by the Italian Government for a $1,800m (£822m) deal whereby Fincantieri, the state-owned shipbuilding group, will supply Iraq with a fleet of 11 warships for The Gulf.

A Fincantieri official said companies in the group will build four "lupo" class frigates, six corvettes of 600 tons, a support vessel of the Stromb'li class, and a floating dock able to take ships up to 8,000 to 10,000 tons.

The contract has been under negotiation for more than a year. At one time the United States vetoed the supply of the 2,500-tons missile launching frigates because their gas turbine engines are made by Fiat under licence from General Electric, and Iraq was then considered to be in the Soviet sphere of influence.

Liquefaction deal

Mitsui SRC (solvent refined coal) Development Company said in Tokyo that it has signed a contract in Melbourne with CSR of Australia jointly to study the possibility of building a coal liquefaction plant in Victoria State.

S Korea exports

South Korea's exports totalled $2,836m (£1,295.5m) in the first two months of this year, up 22.6 per cent from a year ago and 13.8 per cent of this year's export goal of $20,500m.

Canada fuel prices up

The price of petrol and home heating oil in Canada has been raised by half a cent a litre. The increase was imposed to defray the cost of higher crude oil imports.

£298m coal project

A West German delegation will start talks with United States officials in Washington on March 3 on Germany's stake in a DM1,400m (£298m) coal liquefaction project.

Japanese steel trade

Japan's steel exports fell 12.7 per cent in January, from the year before to 1,722 million metric tons, a 37.3 per cent drop from the previous month.

Reserve figures seen by City as indicating extent of intervention

Checking on the Bank of England

Each month, when the figures for the United Kingdom's gold and foreign currency reserves are published, they are eagerly scanned by City observers anxious to detect to what extent the Bank of England has been intervening in the foreign exchange markets.

This happens despite the Government's insistence that it has no exchange rate target and that the Bank intervenes solely to smooth excessive short term fluctuations. The Treasury has also said that the extent of intervention cannot be deduced from the published reserves figures.

But the existence and scale of intervention is still regarded as significant. The City is interested in clues to the authorities' view on the exchange rate and is also concerned about the effect of intervention on the domestic money supply.

If, for example, the Bank of England tries to prevent the pound from rising, it must sell pounds in exchange for foreign currency. The foreign currency goes to increase the reserves; the pounds sold may find their way into the bank deposits of United Kingdom residents. To the extent that they do, the main measure of money supply, sterling M3, will rise.

The so-called "underlying" change in official reserves is conventionally taken to indicate the extent of Bank of England intervention. This is arrived at by taking out of the actual change in reserves borrowings and repayments to the International Monetary Fund, foreign currency borrowing by the Government and public authorities under the Exchange Cover Scheme, and revaluations and certain other changes.

In total, these converted an actual net addition to reserves of about £2,000m in 1980 into an underlying addition of about £1,140m.

This underlying change reflects not only any Bank of England intervention in the foreign exchange market but also the Bank's transactions for customers (other central banks, the IMF, foreign government monetary institutions), the Government's foreign transactions (for example, for defence or aid to developing countries) interest payments and receipts on government loans, and the interest earned by investing the reserves.

The Bank insists that market intervention is confined solely to smoothing excessive fluctuations and amounts to no more than around £5m to £10m a day. Nevertheless, last year when the pound was rising strongly the intervention was heavily in one direction, which would have boosted the reserves (and the money supply) to some extent.

Details of customer transactions are not published, nor are government transactions, interest payments or receipts on loans. But these last categories are likely to involve net outflows of foreign exchange, perhaps of the order of £500m to £1,000m.

This leaves interest on invested reserves. One quarter of the reserves are held in gold, the remainder in foreign currencies and IMF Special Drawing Rights. Where precisely the invested reserves are held is not published; but there is no reason to believe that the investments are substantially different from those in which other governments choose to hold their sterling reserves.

The total exchange reserves held in sterling by other central banks comprises half in Government stocks, and half in short-term investments such as bank deposits (37 per cent) and Treasury Bills (13 per cent).

On the assumption that the reserve holdings of convertible currencies and SDRs earn interest at 10 per cent, the total amount of interest accruing to the reserves would be around £800m to £900m in a year. (Most of the United Kingdom's holdings of convertible currencies are likely to be in dollars, and the bulk is invested in other governments' debt, such as United States Treasury bills.)

Spotting the extent of intervention among the numerous unpublished transactions which go to make up the underlying change in the reserves each month is thus well nigh impossible.

Frances Williams

Expansion slows for banks

By John Whitmore
Financial Correspondent

International banking activity continued to expand strongly in the third quarter of 1980, but there was no further growth in the Eurosterling markets after the sharp rise in the first half of 1980.

Figures released by the Bank for International Settlements yesterday indicated that the external assets of reporting banks grew by just under $50,000m in the three months to September 30, roughly the same rate (at constant exchange rates) as in the previous quarter.

After netting out interbank transactions, however, third quarter growth was somewhat slower, at about $35,000m compared with $45,000m, but still representing an annualized growth rate of some 20 per cent.

A principal reason for this rather slower rate of growth was the ending of certain monetary restrictions in the United States and the United Kingdom. American credit restrictions, introduced during the spring, were lifted. This led to a fall in the demand for finance from offshore sources.

Similarly, in the United Kingdom, the ending of the banking "corset" led to a reversal of an earlier trend that had seen increased recourse to Eurofinance by the United Kingdom non-bank sector.

Steel report warning on competitive costs

By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

The Government has been urged in a report to eliminate the present cost disadvantages suffered by British steel producers compared with their European competitors.

The report also stresses that withdrawal of support would have disastrous consequences for the United Kingdom economy.

In a detailed report covering the cost competitiveness of the European steel industries, the British Iron and Steel Consumers Council said that over the six years to March 1980, British Steel Corporation's costs were estimated to have risen by £1,500m, equivalent to £14 a tonne of steel produced.

This cost disadvantage resulted from price controls, a ban on closure of plants which had been scheduled to be phased out, redundancy costs borne by the state or insurance funds, and higher United Kingdom coking coal and energy costs.

The BRISCC said that roughly half of the government funds provided to British Steel during the six-year period, totalling £2,870m, might be regarded as compensation for those increased costs.

In its report, published as EEC ministers met in Brussels to consider the steel industry's crisis and the phasing out of state aid, the BRISCC said that it was vital that British producers should be able to match the partly government-funded investment of their European competitors.

The report said that government policies must take account of the extent to which Continental steel companies' costs were met by their governments or insurance companies and stressed that against the background of European coking coal prices being held down to world market levels, new coal import restrictions must not place the United Kingdom users at a competitive disadvantage.

Last night in London, Sir Keith Joseph, the Industry Secretary, met the Conservative Industry Committee of backbench MPs to discuss the Government's decision last week to pump a further £880m into the steel corporation over the next 15 months. The MPs expressed reservations at the scale of the taxpayers' commitment to the corporation.

After the meeting, Mr Michael Grylls, the committee chairman, said that he planned to ask the Industry Secretary to publish the performance criteria which the recently announced monitoring committee will use to base its assessment of the scale of payments to be made retrospectively to Lazard Freres, the American investment bank which Mr Ian MacGregor left to take over the chairmanship of British Steel.

Private rail freight confidence

By Michael Baily
Transport Correspondent

Private sector involvement in British Rail's freight business, which represents investment worth around £500m, is expected to rise sharply over the next decade despite the present poor performance.

Private wagon operators, whose 18,000-vehicle fleet carries about a third of all BR freight, are looking beyond the recession and forecasting substantial growth in rail traffic in aggregates, chemicals, and general merchandise. They also expect a rise of over 50 per cent in their share of the larger market.

Mr Michael Barclay, chairman of the Private Wagon Federation whose Railfreight 81 exhibition opened at Olympia, London, yesterday, believes that BR's own freight forecast of a rise from 150 million to 162 million tonnes by 1986 is too pessimistic in the light of possible problems for road hauliers.

"Fuel costs are going to rise very sharply for road transport on top of restrictions on drivers' hours," he pointed out. "At the same time, big gains in productivity are being made in rail freight through bigger, more efficient wagons combined with closer operating control."

The private fleet is already noticeably more productive than BR's own 150,000-wagon fleet, carrying over 30 per cent of the traffic with only 13 per cent of the numbers. This he attributes to bigger, newer wagons, and more effective movement control.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Clarifying the Lloyd's Bill

From The Deputy Chairman of Lloyd's

Sir, I was concerned to read Lord Napier and Ettrick's letter (March 3) suggesting that members of Lloyd's were kept ignorant of the terms of the Bill now before Parliament. A copy of the proposed Bill was sent to all members of Lloyd's on October 6 together with their admission cards for the Albert Hall meeting on November 4. Nor was this the first opportunity for members to consider the terms of the Bill since a draft Bill (very similar to the final version) was sent to all Members as part of the Fisher report in June last year. May I now comment briefly on the other two points in the letter.

The Sasse litigation still continues and we are advised that we should not comment on interpretations placed on the facets of this case.

Sir Henry Fisher's working party made a clear recommendation that immunity should be obtained for the society otherwise self-regulation would not be effective and all the members of the society would suffer. Lloyd's is not seeking to place itself above the law nor to remove its actions from review by the courts. The immunity is only concerned with the relationship between the society and the members of the Lloyd's community and does not affect either the public or the policyholders. That such an immunity should be sought was a committee decision which [has] been supported by the [over]whelming majority of members.

The committee has agreed that immunity will be sought in the Bill itself that it will be open to future council committees working, external and [nomi]nated members to seek immunity subject to the ap[prov]al of the Privy Council [and] Parliament. We believe we would be failing in our [duty] to the membership as a w[hole] if we did less.

I am etc.
A. W. HIGGINS,
Deputy Chairman,
Lloyd's,
Lime Street,
London, EC3M 7HL.

The quality of sugar

From Miss Isabel Sayers

Sir, I am prompted to write to you following the letter from Mrs Gaddum (February 20) about restricted choice of sugar, for I too have been surprised not to have seen this aspect of the matter given public consideration. It so happens I have a few shares in the British Sugar Corporation, and wish them well, for it would be splendid for this country to be self-sufficient in an essential commodity, but there seems to be no doubt that cane sugar, demerara and the various browns, are much more satisfactory for flavouring many foods, as well as white lump for jam making. Indeed, in my youth we used to buy small sacks of broken lump (cane) sugar, for jam making, but I have not heard of this possibility for years. I imagine from the dietary point of view too there must be much merit in demerara, etc—no one could call them pure, white and deadly, as one eminent nutritionist said of white sugar!

Yours faithfully,
ISABEL SAYERS,
High Meadow,
70 Cym Road,
Dyserth,
Rhyl,
Clwyd, LL18 6BD.
February 22.

Nuclear cover

From the Secretary, U[nited] Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority

Sir, Mr Barr's letter (Feb[ruary] 16) suggests that the Nu[clear] Installations Act 1965 [as] amended provides for an a[bso]lute maximum of £50m [com]pensation in respect of a [nu]clear accident. This is no[t so.] Section 16(3) of the Act [pro]vides for the satisfaction [of] claims beyond the [£50m] amount which is covered [by] international arrangements [to] such extent and out of f[unds] provided by such means as [the] United Kingdom Parlia[ment] may determine.

I do not think that t[here] would be difficulty in pra[ctice] in deciding where to addre[ss a] claim for compensation u[nder] the Act in the event of a [nu]clear accident.

P. J. SEARBY,
The Secretary,
United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority,
11, Charles II Street,
London SW1Y 4QP.

Currency transactions

From Mr N. D. Barnett

Sir, I can assure your correspondents that there are places in London where foreign currency can be obtained on the presentation of a cheque or cash.

I went yesterday to an office of Thomas Cook and asked if they would accept my cheque and their reply was that they accepted it on the same basis as any bank. Up to £50 in foreign currency can be obtained, provided the customer had not used the cheque card that day for cash. I bought £50 worth on the spot without any request for my name address, etc.

The only query I had raised was why they charge 75p for each currency requested. My request for pesetas and escudos entailed a surcharge of £1.50. Surely this could be described as overcharging for what was really one transaction?

Yours faithfully,
N. D. BARNETT,
16, Panmuir Road,
London SW20.
February 24.

Windmill sizes

From The Chairman of British Wind Energy Associa[tion]

Sir, Mr Stobart (letters, Febru[]ary 11) implies that the En[ergy] Technology Unit report of 1[] supports his argument [that] small windmills give less co[st] energy than larger ones. In [] the ETSU report suggested [that] the optimum size would be [one] megawatt or larger, and gi[ven] the developments that h[ave] taken place since 1977 [] experts would now favour individual machine rating[s of] several megawatts, when m[ini]mum energy cost is require[d].

Recent work in the [] indicates that large, mod[ern] wind turbines can del[iver] energy at approximately [] pence/kWh—and the t[ech]nology is still rapidly evol[ving] with the prospect of continu[ed] cost reductions. Energy fr[om] small wind turbines c[osts] approximately double t[his] figure.

PETER MUSGROVE,
Department of Engineering,
University of Reading.

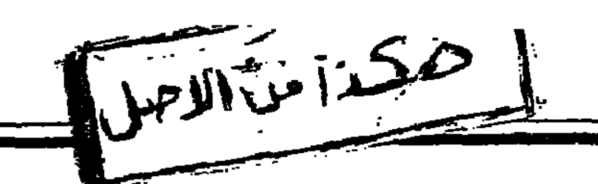
Employing coal miners

From Mr Merlin Minshall

Sir, In its natural concern about how to reemploy redundant coal miners, has the Government considered the widespread hardship that is already falling on all those citizens who for centuries all over the country have earned a livelihood by supplying the Coal Industry with much of its ancillary equipment?

To take just one example, the production of pit props, without which no mine can safely operate. The creation of pit props requires not merely foresters who supply the special wood, but employs many people who work in saw mills and makes considerable use of people in the transport industry who are already having to stand idle as they are no longer required to deliver.

Yours sincerely,
MERLIN MINSHALL,
The Old Bakery,
Stoke Ferry,
Kings Lynn,
Norfolk.



MARKET REPORTS

Commodities

COPPER bars were steady yesterday; cathodes idle.—Afternoon.—Cash wire bars, £792-93.00 a metric ton; three months, £816-16.50. Sales, 5,775. Cash cathodes, £789-91.00; three months, £802-3.00. Sales, nil tons. Morning.—Cash wire bars, £794-95.00; three months, £816.50-17.00. Settlement, £795.00. Sales, 8,250 tons. Cash cathodes, £790-91.00; three months, £803-4.00. Settlement, £791.00. Sales, 75 tons.

TIN.—Standard tin was barely steady; high-grade tin idle.—Afternoon.—Standard, cash, £6,045-60 a tonne; three months, £6,170-75. Sales, 175 tonnes. High grade, cash, £6,045-60; three months, £6,170-75. Sales, nil tonnes. Morning.—Standard, cash, £6,070-80; three months, £6,200-05. Settlement, £6,080. Sales, 675 tonnes. High grade, cash, £6,070-80; three months, £6,200-05. Settlement, £6,080. Sales, nil tonnes. Singapore tin ex-works fell by 15 cents yesterday to 30.45 ringgit per kilo.

LEAD was easier.—Afternoon.—Cash, £318-18.50 per tonne; three months, £328.50-29. Sales, 1,550 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £323-23.50; three months, £332.50-33.00. Settlement, £323.50. Sales, 3,875 tonnes.

ZINC was barely steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £330-31.00 per tonne; three months, £341-42.00. Sales, 4,825 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £333.50-34.00; three months, £344.50-45.00. Settlement, £334.00. Sales, 5,950 tonnes.

PLATINUM was at £202.45 ($445.50) a troy ounce.

SILVER was steady.—Bullion market (fixing levels).—Spot, 550.20p per troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 1,257.00); three months, 516.55p (1,206.20c); six months, 563.50p (1,259.10c); one year, 603.50p (1,360.20c). London Metal Exchange.—Afternoon.—Cash, 534-36.0p; three months, 551-53.0p. Sales, 42 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning.—Cash, 530-31.0p; three months, 547-48.0p. Settlement, 531.0p. Sales, 38 lots.

ALUMINIUM was barely steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £644-46.00 per tonne; three months, £660-61.00. Sales, 2,300 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £648-50.00; three months, £665-66.50. Settlement, £650.00. Sales, 4,550 tonnes.

NICKEL was barely steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £2,830-45 per tonne; three months, £2,825-50. Sales, 216 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £2,855-60; three months, £2,845-50. Settlement, £2,860. Sales, 506 tonnes.

RUBBER was slightly steadier yesterday (pence per kilo).—April, 59.60-60.50; May, 60.40-61.00; April-June, 60.40-60.50; July-Sept, 63.70-63.80; Oct-Dec, 66.40-66.60; Jan-March, 67.50-69.50; April-June, 72.20-72.10; July-Sept, 74.80-74.90; Oct-Dec, 77.70-78.00. Sales: 15 lots at five tonnes each and 490 lots at 15 tonnes each.

RUBBER PHYSICALS were quiet yesterday.—All pence per kilo: Spot, 59.25-60.75. Cif's: April, 62.50-63.00; May, 63.00-63.50.

COFFEE.—ROBUSTAS (£ per tonne): March, 1,007-1,009; May, 1,029-1,030; July, 1,040-1,041; Sept, 1,051-1,052; Nov, 1,058-1,060; Jan, 1,060-1,090; March, 1,080-1,100. Sales: 1,878 lots, including 26 options.

ARABICA (officials at 16.45): April, 131.00-36.00; June, 131.25-35.00; Aug, 139.00-42.00; Oct, 136.00-42.00; Dec, 137.00-40.00; Feb, 135.00-40.00; April, 135.00-40.00.

COCOA was steady, quiet (£ per metric ton).—March, 850-55; May, 915-16; July, 938-39; Sept, 961-62; Dec, 990-92; March, 1,010-12; May, 1,026-30. Sales: 2,804 lots, including 14 options.

SUGAR.—The London daily price of "raws" was £4.00 lower at £251; the "whites" price was £4.00 lower at £280. Futures (£ per tonne): May, 255.25-255.50; Aug, 255.25-255.50; Oct, 249.55-249.75; Jan, 234.00-235.00; March, 234.75-235.00; May, 234.50-235.50; Aug, 234.50-235.50. Sales: 7,076 lots. Closing tone, easier. ISA prices (March 2): daily, 22.77c; 15-day average, 23.80c.

SOYABEAN MEAL was quiet (£ per tonne).—April, 121.00-121.40; June, 124.60-124.90; Aug, 127.00-127.20; Oct, 127.60-128.40; Dec, 129.00-130.00; Feb, 129.00-134.00; April, 129.00-135.00. Sales: 77 lots.

WOOL.—NZ crossbreds, No 2 contract, cents per kilo (quiet): March, 340-46; May, 350-55; Aug, 362-65; Oct, 366-72; Dec, 375-78; Jan, 380-85; March, 392-85; May, 383-88; Aug, 394-00. Sales, 40 lots.

GRAIN (The Baltic).—**WHEAT.**—Canadian western red spring, unquoted. US dark northern spring, No 2, 14 per cent: unquoted. US hard winter, 13½ per cent: March, £107.50; April £108.75 east coast f.o.b., unquoted. English feed, fob, April-June, £117 quoted.

MAIZE.—US—French: March £123 trans-shipment east coast. S African white, unquoted. S African yellow: March-April, £91.50.

BARLEY.—English feed, fob: April-June, £105 seller. All per tonne cif UK unless stated.

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta). EEC origin.—**BARLEY** was firm.—March, £98.10; May, £102.05; Sept, £94.00; Nov, £97.70; Jan, £101.60. Sales, 210 lots. **WHEAT** was firm.—March, £109.30; May, £112.35; July, £116.10; Sept, £98.65; Nov, £102.60; Jan, £106.15. Sales: 317 lots.

Home-Grown Cereals Authority.—Location ex-farm spot prices:

	Other milling WHEAT	Feed WHEAT	Feed BARLEY
S East	—	£106.50	£95.60
S West	—	£107.30	£96.00
W Midlands	—	£106.20	£95.80
N West	—	£107.70	£96.70

MEAT COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on March 3.—GB: Cattle, 90.71p per kg lw (+1.71). UK: Sheep, 170.9p per kg est dcw (−2.50). GB: Pigs, 65.37p per kg lw (+1.01). England and Wales: Cattle nos up 5.8 per cent, ave price, 89.64p (+1.76). Sheep nos up 2.2 per cent, ave price, 168.16p (−0.75). Pig nos up 2.5 per cent, ave price, 65.54p (+1.72). Scotland: Cattle nos up 5.2 per cent, ave price, 91.27p (+1.83). Sheep nos down 1.6 per cent, ave price, 170.01p (−5.01). Pig nos up 4.5 per cent, ave price, 68.06p (+1.06).

POTATOES (GAFTA).—April, £59.70; Nov, £59.20; Feb, £67.10. Sales 152 lots (of 40 tonnes each).

CFTC to decide soon on silver contract

Chicago, March 3.—The Chicago Board of Trade (CBT) expects the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) to decide soon on its request for a revision in its silver contract to 1,000 ounces from 5,000, a CBT spokesman told Reuters.

He said the board has received word that the CFTC may decide as early as this week. If the CFTC decision is favourable, the CBT could begin trading the new contract "within a matter of days", he added.

The 5,000-ounce contract would continue to trade through to October, 1983, since those months are already listed, leaving the two contracts trading simultaneously until then.

The combined silver position limit would be 3m ounces total in both contracts; trading hours would be the same.

Commodities company

Johnson Matthey has formed a wholly-owned United States subsidiary, Johnson Matthey Commodities, which has begun trading in New York in gold, silver and platinum metals.

Discount market

Although credit conditions improved greatly yesterday, money rates stayed very high in the aftermath of Monday's massive shortage. Overnight money inter-bank commanded anything between 15 and 20 per cent throughout the session, while houses paid 14 per cent for the most part. Secured loans did get down to 13½ per cent fleetingly during the morning.

Foreign exchange report

Sterling, helped by a late decline in the dollar, was able to recoup some recent lost ground yesterday, closing 255 points ahead at $2.2060, compared with $2.1805 overnight. In terms of Continental currencies, the pound also had a good day. This was reflected in an 0.8-point gain in its "effective" exchange index at 99.5, compared with 98.7 overnight.

The dollar, firm for most of the session, was unsettled by unexpected half-point cuts to 18½ per cent in the prime rate of both Citibank and First National Chicago. Although still up against the D-mark, the United States currency had relinquished a pretty useful advantage of more than 2½ pfennigs at one stage. The reinstatement by the Bundesbank of the Lombard Facility at 12 per cent was fully discounted.

Sterling, meanwhile, responded to some late buying which stemmed from the growing conviction that a cut in MLR will be very much less than the 3 or 4 per cent so optimistically forecast over the past day or so.

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) March 3	Market rates (close) March 3	1 month	3 months
New York	$2.1750-2075	$2.2050-2070	0.55-0.65c disc	2.65-2.75c disc
Montreal	$2.6290-6550	$2.6525-6545	0.80-0.90c disc	3.10-3.25c disc
Amsterdam	5.27½-35½fl	5.34½-35½fl	1¼-½c prem	1¾-¾c prem
Brussels	77.30-05f	77.80-90f	8c prem-2c disc	17-27c disc
Copenhagen	14.52¾k	14.90½-92½k	1¼ore prem-2¼ore d	4.25-6.05ore disc
Dublin	1.2900-3000p	1.2950-2980p	0-15p disc	45-65p disc
Frankfurt	4.72-75m	4.74½-75½m	½pf prem-½pf disc	1-2pf disc
Lisbon	121.50-127.00e	126.90-127.00e	40c prem-51c disc	39-218c disc
Madrid	202.00-204.70p	204.40-60p	15c prem-25c disc	200-250c disc
Milan	2277-2302lr	2300-02lr	4½-8½lr disc	31-34lr disc
Oslo	11.85-12.09k	12.08½-09½k	275-120ore prem	90ore prem-75ore d
Paris	11.12-16f	11.14½-15½f	½c prem-½c disc	4-5c disc
Stockholm	10.22-33k	10.31½-32½k	110-220ore disc	940-1040ore disc
Tokyo	457-462y	459½-460½y	250-200y prem	495-425y prem
Vienna	33.50-80sch	33.75-80sch	6-2gro prem	2gro prem-8gro d
Zurich	4.31-38f	4.36½-37½f	2¼-1¼c prem	3¼-2¼c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975, was up 0.8 at 99.5.

Other Markets

Australia	1.9505-1.9045
Bahrein	.8210-.8240
Finland	9.0110-9.0510
Greece	111.95-113.55
Hongkong	11.7305-11.7705
Iran	Not available
Kuwait	.5995-.6025
Malaysia	5.0430-5.0730
Mexico	50.75-52.25
New Zealand	2.3770-2.3970
Saudi Arabia	7.2975-7.3275
Singapore	4.6010-4.6310
South Africa	1.7135-1.7285

Indices

	Bank of England Index	Morgan Guaranty Changes %
Sterling	99.5	−26.4
US dollar	101.3	−3.0
Canadian dollar	85.0	−18.6
Schilling	111.7	+21.7
Belgian franc	106.9	+5.8
Danish kroner	86.7	−10.8
Deutsche mark	119.5	+39.7
Swiss franc	149.5	+73.8
Guilder	111.7	+15.1
French franc	85.8	−9.5
Lira	58.8	−53.9
Yen	147.0	+42.8

Based on trade weighted changes from Washington agreement December, 1971. Bank of England Index 100.

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.6980-1.7010
† Canada	1.2034-1.2037
Netherlands	2.3800-2.3850
Belgium	35.27-35.32
Denmark	6.7675-6.7775
West Germany	2.1570-2.1590
Portugal	57.50-57.55
Spain	88.13-88.20
Italy	1041-1043
Norway	5.4755-5.4800
France	5.0805-5.0850
Sweden	4.6875-4.6925
Japan	208.35-208.55
Austria	15.20-15.31
Switzerland	1.9800-1.9830

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
† Canada $1 : US $0.8307-0.8310

EMS Currency Rates

	ECU central rates	currency against ECU	% change from central rate†	% change adjusted%*	divergence limit % plus, minus
Belgian franc	39.7897	41.7617	+4.96	+1.46	1.53
Danish krone	7.7236	7.99073	+3.46	−0.04	1.64
German D-mark	2.48293	2.54998	+2.74	−0.76	1.125
French franc	5.84700	6.00040	+2.62	−0.88	1.3557
Dutch guilder	2.74362	2.81563	+2.62	−0.88	1.512
Irish punt	0.668201	0.696696	+4.26	+0.76	1.665
Italian lira	1157.79	1229.77	+6.22	+2.72	4.08

† changes are for the ECU therefore positive change denotes weak currency.
* adjusted for sterling's weight in the ECU, and for the lira's wider divergence limits.
Adjustment calculated by The Times.

Euro-$ Deposits

Calls, 13¼-15¼; seven days, 15⅝-16¼; one month, 16½-16⅞; three months, 17⅛-17⅛; six months, 16¹⁵⁄₁₆-17⁵⁄₁₆.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $466.25 (an ounce); pm, $471.00 close, $472.50.
Krugerrand (per coin): $484.75-486.75 (£220.25-221.25).
Sovereigns (new): $118.75-120.75 (£52.75-55.25).

Money Market Rates

Bank of England MLR 14%

(Last changed 24/11/80)

Clearing Banks Base Rate 14%

Discount Mkt Loans %
Overnight: High 14 Low 13½

Week Fixed: 14

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	12⁹⁄₁₆	2 months	12⁷⁄₁₆
3 months	11¹³⁄₁₆	3 months	11¹¹⁄₁₆

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

2 months	12½-12¾	3 months	12½
3 months	11²⁹⁄₃₂-11²⁵⁄₃₂	4 months	12¼
4 months	11⅞-11¾	6 months	12
6 months	11½-11¼		

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	14¾-14½	7 months	12⅞-12¾
2 months	13½-13¼	8 months	12⅞-12¾
3 months	12¾-12½	9 months	12½-12¼
4 months	12⅞-12¾	10 months	12½-12¼
5 months	12½-12¼	11 months	12½-12¼
6 months	12⅞-12¾	12 months	12¼-12

Secondary Mkt. ECD Rates (%)

1 month	13¹⁵⁄₁₆-13¹¹⁄₁₆	6 months	12⅝-12⁷⁄₁₆
3 months	12⅝-12½	12 months	12¼-12

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	15¼-14⅞	3 months	12⅞
7 days	15¼-14¾	6 months	12⅝
1 month	14¼	1 year	12¼

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 22-20 Close 17

1 week	17-15	6 months	12⅝-12½
1 month	14⅛-13¾	9 months	12¼-12⅛
3 months	12⅞-12¾	12 months	12¼-12⅛

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate %)
3 months 13¼ 6 months 12⅞

Finance House Base Rate 14%

Wall Street

New York, March 3.—Stock prices dropped sharply in active trading despite a cut in the prime rate to 18½ per cent from 19 per cent by most major banks, consolidating a move begun late last week.

drop had little impact because other short-term rates had risen in the past few days and credit market analysts believed they could go higher still.

Stock market analysts said most of the weakness came from profit taking. The Dow Jones industrial average, which rose 41 points over the last seven sessions, lost 11.97 points today to close at 966.02. Declines paced advances three to two as turnover quickened to 49,000,000 shares from 47,710,000 yesterday.

Oil, defence and technology issues were hard hit. Gold shares bounced back from sharp declines yesterday as bullion prices recovered.

Exxon lost one to 71⅞, Mobil 1⅞ to 67⅜, Texaco 1⅜ to 39⅛ and Standard Oil (Ohio) 1⅞ to 38⅛. In the oil service group, Schlumberger lost 2⅝ to 107⅞ and Halliburton 1⅜ to 75⅜.

IBM dropped 1⅛ to 62⅛, Honeywell three to 102⅛, Computervision 2⅝ to 65⅜ and Rolm Corp 1⅞ to 39. Litton lost 2⅛ to 69⅛ and Teledyne 4⅞ to 188⅞.

Steels and retail issues firmed. Active United States Steel added 1⅛ to 29⅞.



* Ex div. a Asked. e Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

Foreign exchange.—Sterling, spot 2.2080; three months, 2.2350 (2.1765); Canadian dollar, 1.2018 (1.2048).

The Dow Jones spot commodity index was 421.65 (419.53). The futures index was 434.97 (435.10).

The Dow Jones averages.—Industrials, 966.02 (977.99); transportation, 395.47 (396.70); utilities, 108.08 (108.11); 65 stocks, 370.16 (372.86).

New York Stock Exchange index, composite, 74.85 (75.58); industrial, 87.57 (88.62); transportation, 73.45 (73.76); utilities, 37.35 (37.49); financial, 70.26 (70.37).

US commodities

New York, March 3.—SILVER futures at the Comex recovered strongly from 16-month lows on scattered short-covering propelled by the dollar's weakness against several Continental currencies. Closing prices were up 27 to 31 cents. Spot March added 26 cents to $12.08 an ounce, after diving early to a low at $11.65. March, 1,210.50c-1,213.00c; April, 1,220.00c; May, 1,236.00c-1,240.00c; July, 1,268.00c-1,275.00c; Sept, 1,305.00c; Dec, 1,351.00c; Jan, 1,370.00c; March, 1,402.00c; May, 1,434.00c; July, 1,466.00c; Sept, 1,498.00c; Dec, 1,546.00c.

GOLD at the Comex gained $8.20 for March to close at $472.60 an ounce. March, $472.80; April, $474.00-$477.00; May, $481.50; June, $485.50-$487.50; Aug, $498.50; Oct, $510.30; Dec, $521.00; Feb, $534.10; April, $546.20; June, $553.40; Aug, $570.70; Oct, $583.10; Dec, $461.50.

CHICAGO IMM GOLD.—March, $475.50-$474.00; April, $474.30; June, $487.50-$486.50; July, $506.00-$505.50; Oct, $522.50; Jan, $516.50; March, $540.00; April, $533.60.

COPPER futures at NY Comex finished a quiet trade with gains attributed to technical buying after yesterday's sell off. Contracts ended just below best levels adding 1.60 to 1.70 cents a lb.—March, 78.70c-79.00c; April, 79.90c; May, 81.00c-81.20c; July, 83.40c; Sept, 85.60c-85.70c; Dec, 89.05c; Jan, 90.05c; March, 92.10c; May, 93.85c; July, 95.65c; Sept, 97.45c; Dec, 99.10c; Jan, 101.00c.

COTTON.—March, 87.50c-87.32c; May, 88.95c-89.00c; July, 88.60c-88.70c; Oct, 83.10c; Dec, 82.00c; March, 82.75c-83.00c; May, 83.40c-83.80c; July, 83.70c-84.00c.

COCOA futures closed about $10.00 from highs on late trade selling to close $13.00 to $19.00 higher per tonne. March, $1,945; May, $1,973; July, $2,025; Sep, $2,076; Dec, $2,139; March, $2,204; May, $2,264.

COFFEE futures closed an active session up 0.21 to 3.14 cents in nearbys, while the May 1982 contract lost 0.65 cent. Spot March gained 0.21 cent to settle at 121.75 cents a lb. March, 121.50c-122.00c; May, 123.30c-123.60c; July, 124.20c-124.30c; Sep, 125.30c; Dec, 124.00c; March 124.00c-124.40c; May, 122.50c-124.00c; July, 124.00c-125.40c.

SUGAR futures rallied 0.40 to 0.10 cent a lb higher at the close. May, 23.85c-23.90c; July, 23.95c-24.00c; Sep, 23.60c-23.65c; Oct, 23.45c-23.50c; Jan, 21.90c-22.15c; March, 21.90c-21.95c; May, 21.90c-22.10c; July, 21.70c-22.10c.

CHICAGO SOYABEANS closed up 11 to seven cents a bushel in mostly local trade.—March, 718½c-708c; May, 744c-735c; July, 769c-757½c; Aug, 779c-768c; Sept, 787c-777½c; Nov, 803c-793c; Jan, 822c-813c; March, 843c-834½. **SOYABEAN OIL** settled off 0.15 to 0.20 cent a lb.—23.12c-23.17c; May, 23.86c-23.60c; July, 24.72c-24.75c; Aug, 25.10c-25.00c; Sept, 25.30c-25.35c; Oct, 25.65c-25.70c; Dec, 26.30c-26.20c; Jan, 26.50c; March, 27.15c-27.20c; May, 27.65c-27.70c. **SOYABEAN MEAL** closed up $5.10 to $3.00 a ton.—March, $202.80-$203.00; May, $212.00-212.00; July, $219.20-$218.80; Aug, $222.50; Sept, $226.50-$226.70; Oct, $228.50; Dec, $231.50; Jan, $235.50.

CHICAGO GRAINS: WHEAT was unchanged to 3½ cents a bushel lower. March, 439½c-451½c; May, 445½c-436c; July, 447½c-438½c; Sept, 461c-453c; Dec, 483½c-474c; March, 500c-494½c. **MAIZE** was 1 cent lower to 1½ cents higher. March, 354c-350c; May, 365c-359½c; July, 369c-365½c; Sept, 368½c-364c; Dec, 366½c-362½c; March, 377c-373c. **OATS** were two to three cents lower. March, 229c-225c; May, 221c-217½c; July, 215c-210½c; Sept, 215c-210½c; Dec, 223c-219c.

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

[illegible]

Stock markets

Unilever figures and Budget fears hit equities

With only six working days left before the Budget, most investment sections were showing signs of anxiety yesterday over the Chancellor's expected proposals.

Leading industrials again bore the brunt of selling pressure with prices drifting steadily throughout the list. Sentiment was given an additional knock by full-year figures from Unilever, and although profits were in line with most expectations, the reduced dividend came as a bit of a shock—even though it was the result of currency translations. Jobbers were able to stem the expected flow of selling orders by lopping 10p from the price but could only watch as investors switched into the NV shares. The price eventually closed 8p lower at 475p.

Elsewhere, dealers were expressing concern over a possible 2 per cent cut in MLR next week. But several cheap buyers saw equities recover after hours despite the recent weakness of the pound and a possible confrontation looming with the water workers. The FT Index, which was down 7.2 at 1 pm, recovered slightly to close 5.2 lower at 496.2.

Gilts appeared dismayed by reports that the Government had failed in its attempt to cut public sector spending. The weak pound also did little for confidence and the latest reduction in United States prime rates from 19 per cent to 18½ per cent by Citibank and First National of Chicago did little to remedy the matter. Nervous offerings saw falls of between £½ and £¾ in longs while at the shorter end falls ranged from £⅛ to £3/16. Applications for new tap, which open today, are expected to be alloted in full.

Leading industrials spent another uninspiring session with prices usually easier where changed. ICI, down 2p at 248p, and Imperial Group, unchanged at 74½p, were both in ex div form and not, as stated yesterday, as not paying their respective dividends.

Elsewhere, Beecham fell 1p to 161p, Hawker Siddeley 2p to 288p, Tube Investments 6p to 190p, Lucas Industries 2p to 190p and Fisons 2p to 138p. However, there were several bright spots, including Glaxo 2p better at 290p, Courtaulds up 1p to 62p and Dunlop closing firm at 63p.

Shares of John Michael (Savile Row) were suspended at 14p pending a statement expected no later than Monday. Mr John Ingram, chairman, was unable to comment.

Flagging engineering giant GKN will get a boost today with brokers Savory Milln rating the shares a "buy for recovery" and looking for profits in the second half. The brokers expect a £15m loss for last year and a break-even for the current first half. The shares closed unchanged at 144p.

Market newcomer Espley Tyas encountered profit-taking, slipping 6p to 90p, while British Aerospace recovered a 2p fall to close unchanged at 174p.

On the bid front, shares of Davy Corp tumbled 14p to 148p on news that the bid from Enserch had been referred to the Monopolies Commission. Meanwhile, British Sugar, still awaiting the verdict of a report from the Monopolies Commission resulting from the bid by S. & W. Berisford, slipped 9p to 271p while the latter eased 2p to 172p.

Shares of Gaskell Broadloom were another weak market, slipping 7p to 59p after Rowe & Pitman ceased buying on behalf of one of its clients.

Favourable comment lifted Howard Tenens 2p to 60p, Hanson Trust 1p to 226p and Allied Colloids 3p to 123p, but adverse comment on a possible bid approach left Austin Reed 5p lower at 90p.

Speculative attention lifted Olives Paper Mills 4p to 29p, Plastic Construction 3p to 30p, Petbow Holdings 4p to 44p, Peel Mills 7p to 83p, North British Steel 3p to 36p, Gordon Gotch 10p to 150p, Friedland Doggart 6p to 88p and Whatman Reeve 5p to 78p. Buying in a thin market lifted Flight Refuelling 20p to 308p.

However, nervous selling clipped 12p from Boosey & Hawkes at 139p with a loss of 6p to 80p in Textured Jersey.

Worries that the expected cut in MLR might not be as great as originally forecast had building shares on the retreat. BCI softened 10p to 378p, Redland 4p to 167p and Barratt Developments 7p to 194p. Wm Press held steady at 33½p on recent plans for company reorganization and Costain was firm at 216p. Speculative buying was good for a 4p rise in Montague L. Meyer at 80p, while buyers picked up over 100,000 shares in Hargreaves, also 4p stronger at 46p.

Among companies reporting, satisfactory nine-month figures helped AAH to a 3p rise at 190p with Diploma 2p higher at 168p after a better than expected performance. But British Vita slipped 2p to 138p.

In banks figures from Grindlays Holdings were a shade below expectations and the shares responded 2p lower at 176p before recovering to close unchanged at 178p. National Westminster on 363p and Lloyds on 318p, both ex div, closed unchanged as was Barclays, reporting later in the week, on 403p. But Midland shed 3p to 330p. In financials figures from Provident Financial left the price 3p better at 141p.

Electricals opened lower but eventually recovered slightly on cheap buying to close above the worst. GEC fell 3p to 645p, Racal 7p at 361p, Plessey 6p at 313p, Ferranti 10p at 545p and Thorn EMI 6p at 308p.

Breweries remained nervous over the Budget, with Bass retreating 3p to 210p, Allied 1½p to 66½p

Last week the textile sector came in for some long-awaited attention amid noises that the worst was over. But yesterday it was a time to take profits as a line of over 300,000 Dawson International went through the market at 164p. The shares eventually closed 3p lower at 165p.

Equity turnover for March 2 was £124.45m (bargains 21,126). Active stocks, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were Plessey, Davy Corporation, Thorn EMI, Unilever, Racal, Grand Met, Tilling, Ferranti, Burton, Bonheur, Jardine Matheson and Diploma.

Traditional options: Dealers reported moderate activity. Calls were made in First National Finance, Westminster Properties, Sangers, Henry Wigfall, Town and City and British Aerospace. Puts were arranged in Lucas and Grootvlei and doubles completed in Fisons, British Aerospace and Grindlays.

Traded options: A total of 388 contracts were recorded. Consolidated Gold attracted 24, BP 28, Commercial Union 14 and ICI 62.

Latest results

Company Im or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
AAH (*)	261(241)	6.49(6.46)	—(—)	3.82(3.48)	31/3	—(8.5)
British Vita (F)	88.69(73.30)	7.11(8.93)	18.7(33.1)	2.6(2.6)	5/5	5.2(5.0)
Diploma (I)	25.1(24.0)	2.74(3.05)	4.57(6.16)	1.0(1.0)	13/4	—(3.8)
Grindlays (F)	—(—)	34.8(37.3)	26(30)	2.87(2.68)	—	5.89(5.35)
Invergordon Dist (F)	24.6(24.3)	4.4(4.2)	20.17(19.28)	2.5(2.5)	15/5	4.0(4.0)
Mercantile Inv (F)	—(—)	3.91(3.83)	2.81(2.76)	1.25(—)	—	2.52(2.3)
Provident (F)	283.3(250)	8.47(9.22)	12.72(15.5)	4.6(4.25)	—	7.02(6.45)
Royal Insurance (F)	1,241(1,225)	122.5(131.5)	46.6(53.9)	14.7(13.25)	22/5	24.0(21.5)
Unilever (F)	10,152(10,249)	567.7(605.6)	74.25(84.71)	13.97(15.11)	2/6	22.91(24.05)
Winston (F)	1.47(0.78)	0.93(0.4)	10.11(4.42)	1.22(—)	1/7	1.92(1.75)
Woodhs & Rixson (F)	17.0(14.0)	0.58(0.38)	4.0(3.3)	0.5(—)	—	1.4(1.74)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net. *=for nine months.

British Vita down 20 pc, but payout maintained

By Catherine Gunn

British Vita, the Manchester-based foam manufacturer headed by Mr Fornley Parker, announced a 20 per cent drop in its 1980 pre-tax profits to £7.1m yesterday. The shares fell 2p to 138p.

The final dividend has been maintained at 3.7p gross on the enlarged, post-rights issue capital, giving a total gross payment of 7.43p for the year to December 31.

The profits decline came from the British and European operations, which made just over £2.5m against £4.6m the previous year. International operations, which are largely foam manufacturing, increased their contribution by £200,000 to £4.6m after the stronger pound "cost" the group about £200,000 of those higher profits on translating to sterling. The Far East, Australasia, Canada and the Caribbean put up the best performance in 1980.

Group interest costs rose by 86 per cent to £2m, and related largely to the British and European activities. In the final quarter, the rights issue cash earned the group a net interest benefit of £200,000, Mr William



Mr Fornley Parker, chairman of British Vita.

Holt, the company secr said yesterday.

British Vita wants to u cash to add to its presen vities through acquisitio "related fields" and woul to reinforce its positio Europe, Mr Holt said. Lo further ahead, the group has its eye on the U States.

A 21 per cent rise in turnover to £88.7m in reflects the first full ye the Belgian acquisition Lib and 11 months of Vit bought in February 1980. processing is now a signi part of the group's Eur and British activities, afte decision two years ag develop the business her "export" the technology overseas operations.

In making its plans nov group is assuming no signi improvement in United dom trading conditions next year.

Receivers called in for most of Brocks Group

By Margareta Pagano

Receivers were appointed yesterday to most of the companies in the lossmaking Brocks Group after the failure to sell land worth about £3m.

Mr Richard Agutter, joint receiver with Mr Guy Parsons, both partners in the firm of accountants Peat, Marwick, Mitchell, said the crucial factor in negotiations had been the plans to sell surplus land. A tentative offer had been made for the land at Brocks's Poole factory but was withdrawn. This would probably have staved off the appointment of receivers and given the group sufficient cash to pay off its overdrafts and loans.

Brocks's borrowings of about £3.5m came up for renewal recently. The company asked the Midland Bank to call in the receivers.

On Monday Mr Colin Banks, the chairman, called for a suspension of the shares at 16p pending an announcement.

Pelco, which has not been placed under receivership, is the sole distributor of Rockwell products in the United Kingdom and is trading satisfactorily.

Downturn at Provider Financial

By Our Financial Staff

Provident Financial G the Bradford-based fi house, saw profits slip in year to December 31 aft decline in the second half tribution. Pretax p dropped to £8.47m from £9 on turnover of £283.3m, ag £250m last time.

The final dividend has lifted to 6.47p gross, ma a total of 10p gross comp with 9.21p. The increase, ever, is not as large as in vious years.

Group deferred revenue up to £46.3m against £3 and amounts due from tomers rose to £230.8m f £199m. This leaves attribut profits of £5.1m compared £6.1m last time. Interest cha on total borrowings of £1 soared to £18.8m, an incr of £7.2m. The shares adde to 141p on the news.

The first six months sho profits up by 7 per cen £2.88m helped by a buo first quarter. But the gr specializing in personal fina saw a fall in demand in second quarter which conti through the year. Demand by 16 per cent in the first but fell back to 10 per cen the last six months of the y

Mr Peter Hogg, the fin director, said that the sec half traditionally shows greater profits, but pr profits fell by 14 per against the same period time.

Briefly

Grand Metropolitan: Group is considering applying for a New York Stock Exchange quotation, following plans to expand its United States interests after the Liggett acquisition. Grand Met already has a quote on the Paris Bourse.

Centreway: Proposed offer by Centreway Trust of 80p nominal of 11 per cent preference shares in CT plus 60p in cash for each Centreway ordinary share. CT currently owns 521,000 Centreway Ltd, ordinary shares (29.6 per cent). Holders of 370,000 shares (21 per cent) have irrevocably undertaken to accept the offer. Offer values CWL at 132p against 115p as at February 27.

Mercantile Investment Trust: Dividend for year to January 31, 3.6p gross (3.28p). Net revenue £3.91m (£3.83m) after tax. Eps 2.81p (2.76p). Nav per share prior charges at redemption, 73½p (62½p), and at market value 77½p (66½p). Comparisons include arrears of dividend from Shell.

Eva Industries: Shareholders have been advised to reject £3.7m token offer made by Anglo Indonesian Corporation. Mr Roy Astley, chairman, has said that net tangible assets last year were 135p a share and therefore the 40p a share offer represents a 70 per cent discount.

Winston Estates: Turnover for 1980, £1.47m (£787,000). Pretax profit £933,000 (£408,000). Eps 10.11p (4.42p). Dividend, 2.75p gross (2.5p).

Frederick Parker Group: Our report yesterday should have been headlined: "Frederick Parker Group in red" reflecting the group's £692,000 loss last year. Frederick Parker are not involved in a takeover bid.

Stroud Riley, Drummond: Mr Stefan Simmonds, the chief executive, has taken up his option to acquire an additional holding of 9.1 per cent at 42p bringing his stake in the company to 38.9 per cent. Mr Simmonds is now obliged to make an offer at 42p a share to purchase the remaining ordinary shares in group.

New Court Natural Resources has offered to acquire certain producing oil and gas properties located in West Texas for a total of $4.4m (£2m). Based on a reserve evaluation carried out by independent petroleum engineers, net proved reserves attributable to NCNR are about 350,000 barrels of oil.

Thames Investment and Securities: First phase of industrial and warehousing development at Irlam Lancs, comprising 31,000 sq ft has been presold to Coal Industry Nominees for just under £750,000. When let Thames will retain 20 per cent of the income free of liability.

Woodhouse and Rixson (Hldgs): Turnover for year to December 31, £17m (£14m). Pretax profit £584,000 (£383,000) after tax. Eps 4.0p (3.3p). Dividend 2p (2.48p) gross.

Midland Bank Industrial Finance and Moracrest Investments, an associate, have put £1.25m into Spafax Holdings of Bath, which sells engineering components to garages, fleet owners and factories. The injection means that Spafax will not have to consider a stock exchange listing for some years.

Atlantic Resources: Institutions in London and Dublin are to subscribe for shares in Atlantic, a new Irish company headed by Mr Tony O'Reilly which is to acquire an interest in drilling for oil off the West Coast of Ireland.

Rowton Hotels: Globe Investment Trust sold 200,000 shares on February 20 leaving holding nil. Gresham House Estate with subsidiary, Security Change, is interested in 381,500 shares (10.069 per cent).

UK RESERVES

Figures for the United Kingdom's official reserves issued by the Treasury:

End of period	$m	£m	Change in month $
1980			
Feb	23,935	10,523	+229
March*	26,963	12,460	+3,028
April	26,008	12,520	+1,045
May	28,284	12,061	+276
June	28,172	11,952	—112
July	28,272	11,952	+100
Aug	28,291	11,817	+19
Sept	27,537	11,572	—654
Oct	28,026	11,498	+359
Nov	28,189	11,952	+163
Dec	27,476	11,487	—173
1981			
Jan	28,354	11,953	+818
Feb	28,434	12,906	+40

* Reserves revalued each year end-March

Energy exploration fund set for debut

By Catherine Gunn

TR Energy, a £20m energy fund, starts trading in London with a full Stock Exchange quotation on March 12. The fund has been put together by the Touche, Remnant fund management group to invest in energy exploration and development, here and in the United States, through share stakes and leasing agreements.

The Touche, Remnant investment trusts put up half of the capital last year through a mixture of cash, loans now exchanged for shares, and direct transfers of stocks. Now £10m is being raised through an offer for sale conducted by Kleinwort, Benson.

Subscriptions for 10m shares are invited at £1 per 25p share. Lord Remnant, chairman of the new fund and of Touche, Remnant, said yesterday that half of the new shares were firmly placed with "about two dozen institutions". Of the rest, 3.5m had been applied for by the institutions, but he said he also wanted to encourage the small investor, and the lowest application had been set at 200 shares. The lists close next Monday.

Lord Remnant stressed yesterday that the fund was a high risk investment, but claimed that it afforded more protection to investors than other energy funds traded here. No dividends were likely to be paid for two years, he said.

The aim is to invest two-thirds of the fund in the United States. There is no restriction on the proportion of unlisted investments, but no more than 20 per cent of the fund will go into pure drilling ventures. In Britain, 5 per cent will be invested offshore, and 5 per cent onshore. The fund's 21 present investments, valued at £7.82m, include stakes in Candecca, Marinex, Floyd Oil and Flamstone Oil and Gas, formed last year to apply for North Sea licences. A stake is also held in Strata Oil; and the fund has 12.5 per cent of Nord Petroleum, a US company of which the Touche, Remnant trusts also have 12.5 per cent.

Cocoa meeting likely to delay buffer fund decision

By Michael Prest
Commodities Correspondent

Cocoa producers and consumers meeting this week in London are very likely to postpone again a decision on whether to liquidate the £220m (£100m) buffer stock fund accumulated under the expired International Cocoa Agreement

Delegates to the meeting hope that another postponement will buy time to bring the next cocoa agreement, adopted in Geneva last November, into operation by the scheduled date of April. Since the old agreement expired at the end of last March the International Cocoa Organisation has technically been in liquidation.

The Ivory Coast, the world's biggest cocoa exporter, and the United States, the biggest importer, both refused to accept the Geneva agreement. Togo and Gabon also refused.

So far only Ghana has ratified the agreement, which requires ratification by at least five producers responsible for 80 per cent of cocoa exports to come into force.

The Ivory Coast agriculture minister, Mr Denis Bra Kanon, was reported to have arrived in London yesterday. He is willing to discuss modifying the agreement, but also has the right to withdraw about $50m from the buffer stock fund.

Business appointments

Group post for Sir Monty

Sir Monty Finniston is joining the board of Butterfield-Harvey as a non-executive director.

Mr Graham Ferguson Lacey has been appointed to the board of Ni-Cal Developments.

Mr Richard F. Savage has been made personnel director and Mr James Arnold-Baker a director of Quaker Oats.

M Philippe J. Truffert has been elected an associate director of Continental Illinois.

Mr Leslie Williamson has been appointed to the board of Houseman (Burnham), the Portals Holdings water treatment subsidiary.

Mr H. Astley Whittall has become deputy chairman of Ransomes Sims and Jefferies.

Mr A. J. Floyd has resigned from the board of Lesney Products.

Mr Peter H. Gray is to be the new managing director of Yorkshire Biscuits, a subsidiary of Argyll Foods. He succeeds Mr Tim Wilson.

Mr Peter Espenhahn has been appointed a non-executive director of Arlington Motor Holdings.

Mr John Donaldson has become a non-executive director of Cattle's (Holdings), Cattle's Holdings Finance and Cattle's Holdings Leasing.

Mr John Watson and Mr Ashley Bell have been appointed directors of Bellway (Builders).

Mr N. F. Oppenheimer, a director of Anglo American Corporation, has been appointed a members of the board's executive committee.

Mr John Culling and Dr William Currie have gone on to the board of Merck, Sharp & Dohme. Mr Culling is director of legal and external affairs and Dr Currie is medical director of the company.

Mr F. R. Elton-Jones has become finance director of JPM (Automatic Machines).

Mr V. C. Harris, Mr D. E. Harrison and Mr J. D. Bourne have been made directors of Britannia Group of Unit Trusts. Mr R. E. Dellow has become a director of Britannia Institutional Fund Management.

Mr Keith D. Francis has been made managing director of Euro Electronic Instruments.

Whitecroft to sell offshoot

By Our Financial Staff

Whitecroft, the Manchester textiles, building supplies and engineering group, is selling the business and certain assets of the lossmaking Thomas Ryder & Son, a machine tool subsidiary to Sticksound, an offshoot of Gulf and Western Industries.

Sticksound is also leasing part of Ryder's premises in Bolton, Lancashire, at a commercial rent. The price of the whole deal should be around £1.9m cash. Whitecroft hopes to sell Ryder's remaining premises and plant for more than £1m.

Ryder lost £536,000 before tax in the year to March, 1980. The business was reorganized and 200 of the 450 employees were made redundant. Net assets at March 31 were £1.44m. About 100 workers still with Ryder will be kept on by Sticksound.

US deal for Burnett & Hallamshire

By Rosemary Unsworth

Burnett & Hallamshire Holdings, the opencast mining and fuel distribution group, has used some of the proceeds of its £11m rights issue last year to buy a United States coal site for $10m (about £4.5m).

The group, which last week announced it was heading a consortium to explore for coal in the Philippines, has exercised an option it held for nine months for the mining rights to a 3,800-acre site in Pennsylvania.

According to research by National Coal Board geologists the area could yield 15 million tons of coal from opencast mining and five million tons from underground mining. Burnett has paid the equivalent of about 50 cents a ton. The current price of coal is around $35 a ton, which the group considers a depressed level.

The site has an estimated life of 15 years and Burnett expects to invest a maximum of $50m there with a contribution expected in next year's results. The acquisition is expected to increase the group's output from 1.5m tons to 2m within two years, using a labour force of 50.

Under the option agreement, Burnett's US subsidiary, NSM Coal, has paid a deposit of $300,000 and a further $2.45m on the exercise of the option with the balance to be paid in seven annual instalments. Interest on the outstanding consideration will be at 7 per cent throughout the payment period.

The vendor is Mrs Zella Gahagen, a 75-year-old widow who inherited the site from her husband. He had closed the site in the 1950s after a dispute with the miners. The proceeds will be used to build a Mormon school.

Crest to cease yacht making

Crest Nicholson is pulling out of yacht making. The famous 200-year-old firm in Gosport now known as Camper Nicholson is up for sale, and if it is not bought, it will be closed. Crest Nicholson has already made a £1.3m provision in its accounts for the year to last October to cover the closure and redundancy payments for about 60 people.

Mr Norman Tomlinson, a director, said yesterday that the group was in an advanced stage of negotiations with a prospective buyer and hoped to put Camper Nicholson under new management.

Before the Second World War, the boat builders were renowned for making J-class yachts for the America's Cup and yachts for the wealthy, costing anything from £500,000 to more than £1m. In the 1950s the group began building smaller, lighter yachts retailing at between £13,000 and £250,000.

Crest has been watching its performance for two years and says that even when it made profits they were not spectacular.

Granwood buys near 8pc stake in Gaskell

Granwood Holdings, a private holding company based in the Derbyshire town of Matlock, has taken a 7.7 per cent stake in Lancashire carpet manufacturer Gaskell Broadloom.

Granwood wanted to buy 14.9 per cent of Gaskell under the revised rules for stockmarket "raids". But when stockbroker Rowe & Pitman, acting for Granwood, announced last week that its client was prepared to pay 64½p a share to build up the stake, Gaskell's shares soared 11p to a new high of 66p; and Rowe & Pitman was only able to buy 7.7 per cent at the lower offer price.

Yesterday the shares fell 7p to 59p on the news that Rowe & Pitman had ceased buying for Granwood.

Prudential backing for Dual-Fuel Systems

Prudential Assurance, Castle Finance and the private Caparo group have together bought a 49.5 per cent interest in the share capital of Dual-Fuel Systems.

Dual-Fuel Systems is a newly-formed company based in Luton which specializes in the conversion of motor vehicles to run both on gas and petrol. The investment, in the form of share and loan capital, will allow the group to open further depots and eventually a national network of conversion centres is planned.

Diploma slips in first half

By Peter Wilson-Smith

The recession in the electronic components industry is borne out by interim results from Diploma, where pretax profits have fallen from £3.1m to £2.7m. Earlier this month Unitech disappointed the market with only a small rise in the first half and a warning that profits for the full year may be lower.

Mr Christopher Thomas, Diploma's chairman, had a similar message: "We are not going to reach last year's record profits. I do not believe we have seen the worst effects of the recession and with so many price cutters in our markets we are unlikely to be able to maintain volume at satisfactory prices."

Macro-Marketing, the main component distribution company, which made half of group profits in 1979-80, still managed to maintain half-year profits. In the face of stock dumping and falling prices unit volume increased substantially on slightly higher gross margins and profits were unchanged after increased overheads.

Lower group profits, on turnover up from £24m to £25m in the half year to December 31, were attributed to a downturn in the manufacturing and service operations although steel processor Henry Whitham did well. The 80 per cent stake in Industrial Scaffolding has been sold at a book profit and the proceeds, together with loan repayments, ran into seven figures.

The interim dividend is unchanged at 1.43p gross.

Pergamon Press buys data processing group

Pergamon Press, the private publishing group controlled by Mr Robert Maxwell, has bought the data processing, education and training group Infotech from its liquidator for an undisclosed sum.

It will now change its name to Pergamon-Infotech, rehire 40 of the 120 former staff and be expanded to include word processing, office automation and computing in printing and publishing.

Infotech went into liquidation on February 6 with debts estimated to be £1m. Trade sources had already named four groups which could be interested, but none identified Mr Maxwell.

In a separate announcement, publishers William Collins & Sons (Holdings) disclosed that Pergamon Press had topped up its holding from 6.86 per cent to 7.175 per cent. Pergamon began buying Collins shares last October under one of two nominee companies. There has been no contact between Mr Maxwell and Collins, where directors and family trusts are believed to hold almost 50 per cent.

Mr Maxwell is awaiting approval of BPC shareholders for Pergamon to inject £10m into the former British Printing Corporation and for Mr Maxwell to become its deputy chairman and chief executive. No date has yeet been made.

Marshalls Halifax: Norwich Union Life Assurance Society and Norwich Union Fire Insurance Society hold 706,862 shares (5.23 per cent).

County Bank di is against trend

County Bank, the who owned merchant banking s sidiary of National Westmin Bank has reported lower pro for 1980. It made £6.87m bef tax compared with an adjus figure of £7.31m. This r contrary to recent trends in profits of merchant banks wh have been on the whole ris substantially.

The bank's advances h risen from £297m to £34 while gross assets have gone from £662m to £792m. Cou Bank is paying a dividend £580,000.

Thorn-EMI merger in Australia

International

The directors of Thorn Electrical Industries of Australia and of EMI (Australia) have unanimously agreed to a merger.

Thorn Australia is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Thorn EMI group, which, as a result of the 1979 merger in the United Kingdom between Thorn and EMI, is entitled to 8.46m stock units or 61.8 per cent of EMI Australia's issued capital.

A joint announcement said the merger was to be effected by Thorn making a formal offer for all EMI Australia stock units to which the Thorn EMI group is not at present entitled.

The offer will be A$2.07½ cash for every such EMI Australia stock unit and is made on the basis that EMI Australia will not declare any further dividends with respect to the year ended March 31.

EMI Australia expects pretax profits for the year to March 31 of about A$4m (£2.1m). Because of a change in balance date, EMI Australia's last annual report covered only the nine months to March 31, 1980, and in that period it recorded pretax profits of A$1.7m.

Pilkington in joint venture

Pilkington Brothers of St Helens and National Patent Development Corporation of New York, a publicly quoted company with a wide range of business interests, have signed a joint venture agreement to exploit National Patent's soft contact lens business worldwide.

The joint venture agreement has been initiated with Pilkington's convertible loan of $10m (£4.6m) to National Patent's optical group. Over the next four years, Pilkington has the right to convert the loan and to purchase additional equity interest in National Patent's optical group.

North Kalgurli Mines

North Kalgurli Mines has purchased a 50 per cent interest in Teton Exploration Drilling Co, a subsidiary of UNC Resources of the United States, for A$5m (£2.6m).

Teton has a 25.5 per cent interest in the Honeymoon uranium project in South Australia as well as joint venture participation in other uranium prospects in Australia.

Swiss Bank Corporation recorded net profits of 286.6m francs (£66.6m) in 1980, up 11.1 per cent from 1979. The balance sheet total increased by 7.1 per cent to 74,000m francs.

Goodyear sales prospects

Goodyear Tire and Rubber expects its European sales in 1981 to climb from $1,400m to $1,600m (£730m), but expects profits to stay at the 1980 net earnings level of $49m. While the group does not foresee any expansion in its European manufacturing facilities this year, it plans to spend $70m to enlarge tyre plants in Luxembourg and Italy in 1982.

European sales are expected to continue their decade-long pattern of improvement and reach $2,000m in 1983. Because of problems facing the European car industry, most of the tyres sold in the next year or two will be of a replacement nature rather than for new vehicles.

The other giant United States tyre maker, Firestone Tire & Rubber, is selling a majority interest in its South African subsidiary to Federale Volksbeleggings Beperk, a South African industrial holding company.

Firestone has not disclosed the purchase price but says the transaction will not have a significant effect on second-quarter earnings. Firestone will retain about 25 per cent of the outstanding shares of Firestone South Africa.

Japanese bank up

Japan International Bank, the London-based consortium bank owned by several Japanese banks and financial institutions, has reported pretax profits of £3.84m for 1980, up from £3.14m in 1979. Total assets grew from £388m to £412m.

Bambers Stores is buying Brahams of Lowestoft, trading as "Tuttles". Bambers will take possession in mid-April.

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Victoria: LONDON

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Near Tottenham Court Road Tube station.



Career Opportunity
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WIMBLEDON 1981

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The successful applicant is unlikely to have less than 7 years secretarial experience.

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La creme de la creme also on page 30

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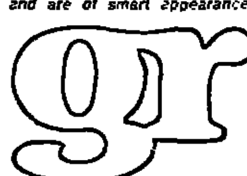
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Applications are invited for the above position dealing with a wide range of secretarial and administrative duties. This post offers the opportunity for an experienced secretary to become actively involved in the administration of the School and to gain an insight into its Committee structure and the School's links with the University of London. The main requirements in addition to a good standard of secretarial skills (shorthand is required) are the ability to organise one's own work and an interest in meeting and dealing with people at all levels.

Starting salary will be in the range £5,[illegible]-£6,[illegible] and the school offers a wide range of benefits, catering and social facilities. Application forms and further details from:

Sheila McKenzie, LSE, Houghton Street,
London WC2A 2AE
Tel: 404 4763
Closing date 13th March, 1981

Property

New homes built in an older style

Combining modern standards of comfort and interior design with the picturesqueness of an earlier style is not the easiest exercise. Usually the difficulties are met by up-dating an old house with a greater or lesser degree of rebuilding. A more unusual method is to build a new house as closely as possible to an earlier style, avoiding if possible the more obvious embellishments which gave rise to the style known as "stockbroker tudor" in the inter-war years.

An example of this is provided by Farthingale House, at Funtington, near Chichester, West Sussex, which was carefully designed and built some six years ago in brick and flint as a replica of an eighteenth century village house, using selected materials in an intentionally "old" style.

It has a large sitting/dining room some 32ft long with a fine inglenook fireplace and iron canopy, study, combined kitchen and breakfast room, four bedrooms and two bathrooms. Within the roof is a large galleried music room, also 32ft long, with exposed roof timbers. There is a paved courtyard and medium-sized garden. Offers about £115,000 are being asked through Jackson-Stops and Staff, of Chichester.

A genuine eighteenth century house, almost a prototype for Farthingale House, is Perching Manor, at Fulking, Sussex, also constructed in brick and flint and with a tiled roof. Here, main accommodation includes two reception rooms, a large conservatory, seven bedrooms and two bathrooms.

In addition, on the ground floor there is a self-contained apartment—with access from the house and by its own front door—which consists of a bed-sitting room and its own kitchen and bathroom. There are a partly walled garden and orchard and pasture land which extends in all to just under 1½ acres. A price about £200,000 is being asked through Churchman Burt and Son, of Steyning, Sussex.


Farthingale House, at Funtington, near Chichester, Sussex, built only six years ago in an eighteenth century style.

An interesting prospect for a complete conversion, subject to planning permission, is Lodgington Oast, at Linton, near Maidstone, Kent. It is built of ragstone, with a partly boarded front and a tiled roof. The ground floor measures some 52ft by 23ft, with a similar area above. At one end of the building is a single kiln of 20ft diameter and attached at the rear are two further kilns. Land with the buildings extends to about three-quarters of an acre. Offers of about £45,000 are being asked through Finn and Sons, of Sandwich.

No less than three Cotswold cottages, suitable for improvement and modernization, are to come up for auction later this month through the Stow on the Wold office of Bernard Thorpe and Partners. One is at Kingham and is a three-storey detached building with a sitting room and three bedrooms, which is expected to make over £25,000. Another is at Condicote and is a detached double-fronted cottage with "two up and two down" accommodation, plus a large outbuilding to one side and about 2½ acres of pastureland, which might make about £30,000. The third is a stone Victorian semi-detached four-roomed cottage, in Kingham, expected to realize about £15,000.

A good example of an old school building converted to residential use is provided by The Old School House, at Tichborne, near Alresford, in Hampshire. Believed to have been built about 1842, it is constructed of brick and flint, with a partly slate and partly tiled roof, and still retains the old school bell and door.

There are two main reception rooms, a conservatory and four bedrooms. Outbuildings include a double garage and a workshop and the whole extends to just under 1½ acres. The price is over £70,000 and the agents are Pearsons, of Alresford.

Another interesting old school conversion is The Bell House, at Boughton Malherbe, Kent. This is thought to have been built about 1847 and has not only retained its school bell, but also the schoolroom. This room provides a living area measuring some 36ft 6in by 15ft 6in, with a height of about 26ft to the apex of the roof, and has arched windows. Besides this, there are a combined kitchen and breakfast room, five bedrooms and two bathrooms. There is about one-third of an acre of garden and the price is about £110,000. The agents are Strutt and Parker, of Canterbury.

In contrast is Sparrows End, at Newport, near Saffron Walden, Essex, a house built some 15 years ago in the neo-Georgian style, with a pillared entrance porch and a round central window above it. It has two unusually large reception rooms, the drawing room being nearly 30ft long and the dining room almost as large. On the first floor are a main bedroom and bathroom suite, three further bedrooms and another bathroom, plus a further three bedrooms on the second floor.

There are landscaped gardens and the whole property, mainly arable and pasture land, runs to just under 40 acres, including meadows with a river frontage. Outbuildings are extensive. Offers of about £225,000 are being asked through Swor of Saffron Walden.

With all the spaciousnes houses built earlier this cen is Down End, at Chilbolton, Andover, Hampshire, buil 1906 of brick and clay tile struction.

Here, there are a large re tion hall, two main recep rooms, study, large kitchen a separate breakfast room o main bedroom, dressing r and bathroom suite, five fur bedrooms and a shower room in about 3½ acres the pric about £150,000, through bers.

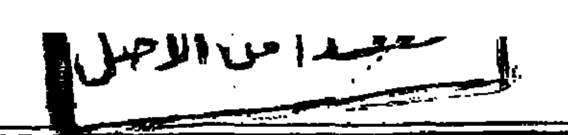
More modern is Harmony Silverdale Avenue, Walto Thames, Surrey, built abou years ago on the Ashley private estate. A feature is roof of hand-made tiles wi stone chimney. The accomm tion includes three recep rooms, five bedrooms and bathrooms.

There are a double garage a store shed. Gardens grounds are landscaped and tend to about two thirds o acre, with many mature sh and trees. About £180,000 being asked and the agents the Ascot office of Knight Fr and Rutley.

Gerald

Residential property





PERSONAL CHOICE

Philip Madoc in Elaine Morgan's The Life and Times of David Lloyd George (BBC 2, 9.25).

● One episode does not a serial make, any more than one swallow makes a summer, so I must not assume that part one of *The Life and Times of David Lloyd George* (BBC 2, 9.25) is necessarily the shape of things to come. I hope it is, because it looks as if BBC Wales have come up with a winner here. And a warts'n all winner, too, which says much for the non-partisan integrity of those busy people down in Cardiff. The particular wart tonight concerns an illegitimate baby fathered by the Welsh Wizard. Elaine Morgan, the scriptwriter, indulges in the not altogether fanciful speculation that, to hush matters up, local Liberals found the cash to provide the love child with an annuity. But speculation yields to hard fact in the rest of Miss Morgan's astonishing compression of Lloyd George's early years: schooling, marriage, his legal victory in the case of a Nonconformist corpse that the Established Church did not want interred in Anglican soil, and his election to Parliament. Make-up does wonders for Philip Madoc's portrayal of DLG. As to the rest—mind, soul, eloquence and roving eye—there is no one to praise but Mr Madoc himself.

● I expected more from Frank Cvitanovich's film *The Kilnsey Show* (ITV, 9.00) but I'm glad I didn't get it. It is about a one-day agricultural show on the Yorkshire moors: champion veg, cakes, rams, carved walking sticks and heavy horses. Also, the fastest feet in the race across misty crags and the best coordinated hands and eyes in the stone wall making contest. It is the least arty film you ever saw. *The camera takes moving snaps*, people chat, the brass band plays, the day wears on and the sun goes down behind the crags. Nothing is manipulated to make a point of cosmic significance. It's as no-nonsensical as Yorkshire pudding—and just as difficult to get right.

● Elsewhere on TV, it's *Old Hands night. Malcolm Muggeridge* continues to reassess his younger self as seen in old BBC TV films (BBC 2, 8.05), and there is Levin on Figaro (BBC 2, 10.25) in which Mr Levin offers infinitely more than the title leads you to expect of it. Levin not only on Figaro, in fact, but also on filmed versions of other Mozart operas. Figaro, on film, can be seen on BBC 2 on Saturday night.

● As Sue MacGregor sounds such a pleasant person when she presents Women's Hour (Radio 4, 2.02), it would be churlish not to accept her invitation to be her guest later on in the day (Radio 2, 10.30). She will talk about her life in broadcasting. . . . My music choices are Malcolm Binns playing Schumann's Kinderscenen (Radio 3, 2.55) and the BBC Welsh SO playing the Brahms No 2 (Radio 3, 8.45).

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: †STEREO; *BLACK AND WHITE; (r) REPEAT.

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davalle

TELEVISION

BBC 1

6.40 am Open University: Clean Air Success; **7.05** Origin of the Earth; **7.30** What is Combinatorics? Closedown at 7.55.
9.05 For Schools, Colleges: Plastic Materials; **9.35** Maths File; **9.58** Let's Cross the Road; **10.15** Words and Pictures; **10.30** Japan; **11.02** Everyday Maths.
11.25 You and Me: Lines and Circles.
11.40 Schools, Colleges: Resource Unit: English; **12.05 pm** Kontakte; **12.30** Closedown.
12.45 News; 1.00 Pebble Mill at One: Dr Magnus Pyke goes into the kitchen to prepare his favourite dish, Kedgeree; **1.45 Trumpton:** The story of the window cleaner (r).
2.01 Schools, Colleges: Pancake Day; **2.18** History: Pearl Harbour to Hiroshima; **2.40** Read On!
3.00 Speak for Yourself: What to do when the landlord won't do the necessary repairs. Another lesson in how to make the best use of English (r); **3.25 Delia Smith's Cookery Course:** Meals for vegetarians (r).
3.55 Play School: Mike Rosen's story Maggie's Nest. Also on BBC 2 at 11.00 am; **4.20 Secret Squirrel:** cartoon. Scotland Yard Capers; **4.25 Jackanory:** Sherrie Hewson with another reading from Dorothy Edwards's, A Strong and Willing Girl.
4.40 Take Hart: How children can become artists. With Tony Hart, Morph and the Tin pots; **5.00 Newsround:** with Paul McDowell;
5.05 Break in the Sun: Episode 4 of this serial about a runaway girl and a group of floating actors; **5.35 The Perishers.**
5.40 News: with Peter Woods; **5.55 Regional news magazines:** All regions unite at 6.20 for Nationwide.
6.55 Triangle: Passenger ferry serial. Joe Bailey (Elizabeth Larner) stands accused of theft.
7.20 Film: Don't Just Stand There (1968) Comedy about a watch smuggler (Robert Wagner) and the girl who helps him (Mary Tyler Moore). Set in Paris. Director: Ron Winston.
9.00 News: with John Edmunds.
9.25 Sportsnight: Any one of four British clubs—Liverpool, Ipswich, West Ham or Newport County—could be featured tonight in a European Football Cup match. Also, coverage of the World Ski-Flying Championships, from Germany, and action from last night's Commonwealth welterweight title fight between Colin Jones and Mark Harris at Wembley Conference Centre.
10.50 Parkinson: The mid-week edition of his chat show. His guests include Ian Wallace, the Kings Singers and David Shepherd, the wild life artist.
11.50 News headlines and weather.

Regions

BBC 1 VARIATIONS: [illegible]

BBC 2

6.40 am Open University. Manpowered Aircraft (1); **7.05** Pilgrimage; **7.30** Writing History. Closedown at 7.55.
10.20 Gharbar: For Asian women viewers. A general magazine. Closedown at 10.45.
11.00 Play School: Mike Rosen's story Maggie's Nest (also on BBC 1 at 3.55). Closedown at 11.25.
4.50 pm Open University. Resources in Sound. Closedown at 5.15.
5.40 Charlie Chaplin: The Jitney Elopement (1915)* Two-reeler in which Charlie impersonates a count and runs away with his intended bride (Edna Purviance). There is fun with a Model-T Ford.
6.10 The Master Game: Ninth game in this 12-game chess tournament for the Master Game trophy. It is between Svetozar Gligoric, of Yugoslavia, and Robert Byrne, of the United States. Still leading the field is Britain's Nigel Short.
6.40 Open Door: Programme about do-it-yourself entertainers. Made by the BBC's Community Programme Unit; **7.10 News,** with sub-titles for the hard of hearing.
7.20 The Glasbrook Touch: A film portrait of Bob Glasbrook, Steinway's senior concert technician, who looks after 100 concert grand pianos, including instruments on which Rubinstein, Claudio Arrau, Emil Gilels and Clifford Curzon have played.
8.05 Muggeridge: Ancient and Modern. Second of the films that form an autobiography of the sage. Tonight: his life from 1927 to 1935. With extracts from BBC TV films made about him over the years (see Personal Choice).
9.00 M*A*S*H: Korean war comedy. The men of the medical unit are to have a reunion with their loved ones. With Alan Alda.
9.25 The Life and Times of David Lloyd George: Part one of an ambitious nine-part dramatized biography of the Welsh politician and womanizer, written by Elaine Morgan, and starring Philip Madoc. BBC Cymru/Wales production (see Personal Choice).
10.25 Levin on Figaro: Bernard Levin contributes a curtain-raiser to next Saturday night's BBC 2 transmission of a new film version of Mozart's The Marriage of Figaro. Includes excerpts from other filmed Mozart operas (see Personal Choice).
10.45 Newsnight: The day's main news stories, and sports results.
11.30 International Bowls: The second semi-final of the Embassy World Indoor Bowls Championship, played at the Coatbridge Indoor Club. Ends at 12.05.

THAMES

9.30 am For Schools: The study of fossils; **9.50** Shapes that roll; **10.10** A Victorian doctor and his family; **10.35** Pop music history; *11.05 A survey of signposts*; **11.17** The city of Verona; **11.34** Poetry and lyrics.
12.00 Cloppa Castle: Puppets in a medieval story; **12.10 pm Rainbow:** Aesop's story of The Fox and the Goat.
12.30 About Britain: Weir's Way: The Rough Bounds. A walk in Scotland in the company of the naturalist Tom Weir.
1.00 News; 1.20 Thames News; 1.30 Crown Court: The jury decides in the case of the man (William Hootkins) accused of running an unorthodox hair therapy practice (r).
2.00 After Noon Plus: At home with Allan Stewart, the Scottish entertainer. Filmed in Glasgow.
2.45 Fantasy Island: ridiculous American series about a strange island. With Ricardo Montalban.
3.45 Movie Memories: Roy Hudd and requested *film clips, including* Laurel and Hardy comedies and Al Jolson's The Jazz Singer. Also *an interview with the actor* Anthony Steel.
4.15 Watch It! A story about Dr Snuggles, the inventor; **4.20** Runaround; **4.45 Freedom Chase:** Three outlaw brothers living in the forest find that autumn is not the most congenial of seasons; **5.15 Mr and Mrs:** matrimonial quiz game.
5.45 News; 6.00 Thames news; *6.15 Help! A new booklet gives details of some of the things pensioners can do in London.*
6.35 Crossroads: motel serial. A row between Victor Lee and Adam Chance.
7.00 This is Your Life: Another wartless biography, presented by Eamonn Andrews.
7.30 Coronation Street: Annie Walker does not think very much of her two new barmaids, and Deirdre agrees to help Mike Baldwin to put his new flat in order.
8.00 Starburst: Variety show. The bill includes Donald Swann and Frank Topping, The Spinners, and the impressionists Brother Lees.
9.00 The Kilnsey Show: Documentary, without narration, about the annual agricultural and sports day held in Upper Wharfdale, in Yorkshire. Produced and directed by Frank Cvitanovich. (See Personal Choice).
10.00 News from ITN; 10.30 International Snooker Masters: First transmission from the tournament. The two day event for the Yamaha Organs Trophy: at Derby. Alex Higgins and Fred Davis are among tonight's players.
11.40 Enterprise: Fair Exchange. What goes on behind the doors of the Stock Exchange in London.
12.10 am **Close:** Gray's Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard is read by Jack Peel.

Anne Kirkbride: Coronation Street (ITV, 7.30).

RADIO

Radio 4

6.00 am News Briefing. 6.10 Farming Today. 6.30 Today. 7.00, 8.00 News. 7.30, 8.30 Headlines. 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament. 9.00 News. 9.05 Mid-Week. 10.00 News. 10.02 Gardeners' Question Time. 10.30 Daily Service. 10.45 Story: Clap Hands, Here Comes Charlie, by Beryl Bainbridge. 11.00 News. 11.05 Baker's Dozen. 12.00 News. 12.02 pm You and Yours. 12.27 Frank Muir goes into . . . Laziness.† 12.55 Weather. 1.00 The World at One. 1.40 The Archers. 2.00 News. 2.02 Woman's Hour. (See Personal Choice). 3.00 News. 3.02 Play: *The Incredible Stan* Mascott and the Siege of Rostov Cathedral, by Tom Elliott.† 3.50 Zoo Talk. 4.00 Choral Evensong†. 4.45 The Trumpet Major (8). 5.00 PM. 5.55 Weather. 6.00 News. 6.30 My Music.† 7.00 News. 7.05 *The Archers.* 7.20 Checkpoint. 7.45 Person to Person. 8.45 File on 4. 9.30 Kaleidoscope. 10.00 The World Tonight. *10.30 There Were Giants in Those Days* (4). 11.00 The Painted Veil (8). 11.15 Financial World Tonight. 11.30 Today in Parliament. 12.00 News. 12.15 am-12.23 Shipping forecast.

VHF
9.05 am Schools: Advanced Studies—English: Radio Thin King (6); La France aujourd'hui (6); Poetry Corner; Music Makers (6); Something to Think About. 10.30 Listen with Mother. 10.45-12.00 Schools: The Music Box; By the People, For the People; Casebook '81; Quest. 2.00 pm-3.00 Schools: Movement and Drama 1; Books, Plays, Poems; Nature. 3.00 Study on 4: (Dígame! (18). 11.30-12.00 Open University: Images of Reality; Music Interlude.

Radio 3

6.55 am Weather. 7.00 News. 7.05 Records: Gottschalk, Gastoldi, Goldmark (Rustic Wedding).† 8.00 News. 8.05 Records: Villa-Lobos, Turina, Bizet, Wolf-Ferrari.† 9.00 News. 9.05 Week's Composer: Stravinsky (incl Sym of Psalms).† 10.00 Organ: Widor (Sym 6).† 10.35 Oboe, piano: Schumann.† 10.50 Light Music Miniatures.† *11.30 Northern Sinfonia Orch/* Fischer: Haydn (Sym 96), Mozart.† 1.00 pm News. 1.05 Music interlude. 1.25 Cricket: West Indies v England. 4.00 The Prelude, by Wordsworth (9). 4.25 Violin, piano (Brainin/Crowson): Mozart (K379). 4.55 News. 5.00 Mainly for Pleasure.† 7.00 Story: By the Water, by Paul Bowles. 7.30 BBC Welsh SO/Lockhart (live from Swansea), pt 1: R. Swain (*NGC 5128 in centaurus*—1st perf), Tchaikovsky (Pno Conc 1—Lill).† 8.25 Six Continents. 8.45 BBCWSO, pt 2: Brahms (Sym 2).† (See Personal Choice.) *9.40 Record: Bach.* 10.00 Caxtons are Mechanical Birds: poetry. *10.45 Songs: Schubert.*† 11.00 News. 11.05 Record, Glinka.† 11.15-11.30 Cricket.

VHF
5.55 am-6.55 Open University: Nation and State; Music interlude; Television and Politics (2). 1.05 pm Quartet (*Bochmann*): Haydn (Op 71 No 2), Britten (No 2).† 2.05 Music Weekly.† 2.55-4.00 Piano (Binns): Schumann, Debussy.† (See Personal Choice.) 11.15-12.35 am Open University: Racial Attitudes in Britain: Technology and Society; Talking about Revolution; Bon Accord.

Radio 2

5.00 am Bob Kilbey.† 7.30 Terry Wogan.† 10.00 Jimmy Young.† 12.00 David Hamilton.† 2.00 pm Ed Stewart.† 4.00 Much More Music.† 6.00 John Dunn.† 8.00 Football. 9.30 The Songwriters.† 10.00 Wit's End. 10.30 Sue MacGregor (See Personal Choice). 11.00 Brian Matthew. 2.00 am-5.00 You and the Night and the Music.†

Radio 1

5.00 am As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.00 Andy Peebles. 12.30 pm Newsbeat. 12.45 Paul Burnett. 2.30 Dave Lee Travis. 4.30 Peter Powell. 7.00 Mailbag. 8.00 Richard Skinner. 10.00 John Peel.† 12.00 Close. VHF RADIOS 1 AND 2: 5.00 am With Radio 2. 8.00 pm Listen to the Band.† 8.30 Alan Dell.† 9.00 The Songwriters.† 10.00 With Radio 1. *12.00-5.00 am With Radio 2.*

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave (648 kHz, 463m) at the following times (GMT):
6.00 am Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-four Hours. 7.45 Report on Religion. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Peebles' Choice. 8.30 Animal, Vegetable or Mineral? 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Play It My Way. 10.15 Divertimento. 10.30 Fear, Horror and Aversion—The Story of Phobias. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News about Britain. 11.15 Listening Post. 11.30 Benny Green on Dickens. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 pm Nature Notebook. 12.25 The Farming World. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-four Hours. 1.30 Little Dorrit. 2.15 Report on Religion. 2.30 The Age of Aquarius. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Emlyn. 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Book Choice. 5.15 Listening Post. 5.30 Take One. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-four Hours. 9.15 International Soccer Special. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 Book Choice. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Round-up. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 A House for Mr Biswas. 11.30 Top Twenty. 12.00 World News. 12.09 am News about Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 Listening Post. 12.45 Musical Memories. 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 Gold Rush. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Network UK. 2.30 Assignment. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News about Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 John Peel. 4.00 Newsdesk. 5.45 The World Today.

WAVELENGTHS: Radio 1 medium wave 275m/1089kHz or 285m/1053kHz. Radio 2 med wave 330m/909kHz and 88-91 VHF. Radio 3 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90-92.5 VHF. Radio 4 long wave or 433m/693kHz and 92-95 VHF. Greater London area only: med wave 720kHz/417m. LBC 261m, 97.3 VHF, 1500m/200kHz and 92-95 VHF. Capital 194m, 95.8 VHF. World Service: med wave 648kHz (463m). BBC Radio London 206m, 94.9 VHF.

REGIONAL TV

Westward
As Thames except: 12.27 pm-12.30 Gus Honeybun's Birthdays. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Star Parade. 5.15-5.45 University Challenge. 6.00-6.35 Westward Diary. 10.31 News. 10.34 Snooker. 11.40-11.45 *Faith for Life.*

Channel
As Thames except: 12.00-12.30 pm Closedown. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Star Parade. 5.15-5.45 University Challenge. 6.00-6.35 Channel Report. 10.28 News. 10.34 Snooker. 11.40 Epilogue.

HTV
As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Houseparty. 2.25-3.45 Louis Armstrong, Chicago style. 5.15 Dick Tracy. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Report West. 6.30-7.00 Survival. 10.28-10.30 News. 11.40-12.10 am Superstar Profile: Michael Douglas.
HTV Cymru/Wales: As HTV West except: 12.00-12.30 pm Ffalabalam. 4.15-4.20 Pinocchio. 4.45-5.15 Siraeon y Byd. 6.00-6.15 Y Dydd. 6.15-6.30 Report Wales.

Border
As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Love Boat. 5.15-5.45 University Challenge. 6.00-6.35 Lookaround. 11.40-11.43 News.

Scottish
As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Certain Women. 5.15 Pet Subject. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.30 Toye's Talk Back. 6.30-7.00 Talking Scots. 11.40 Paris by Night. 12.10 am-12.15 Late Call.

Grampian
As Thames except: Starts 9.25 am-9.30 First Thing. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Love Boat. 5.15-5.45 Batman. 6.00-6.35 North Tonight. 11.40 Musical Special. 12.10 am-12.15 News.

Ulster
As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 4.13-4.15 News. 5.15 Cartoon. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00-7.00 Good Evening Ulster. 11.40-11.50 Bedtime.

Anglia
As Thames except: Starts 9.15 am-9.20 *Jobline.* 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45 Story Hour. 3.45-4.15 Entertainers. 6.00-6.35 About Anglia. 11.40 Paris by Night. 12.10 am Big Question.

Yorkshire
As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Lifeline. 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00-6.35 Calendar. 11.40-12.10 am Paris by Night.

Granada
As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Granada Reports. 2.00 Live From Two. 2.50-3.45 Family. 5.15-5.45 Welcome Back, Kotter. 6.00 Granada Reports. 6.25 This Is Your Right. 6.30-7.00 Crossroads. 11.40-12.45 am Rock Stage.

Southern
As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Houseparty. 2.25 Fantasy Island. 3.20-3.45 Survival. 5.15 Betty Boop. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. *6.00* Day by Day. 6.35-7.00 Scene Mid-Week. 11.40 That's Hollywood. 12.10 am Weather followed by Talking with God.

ATV
As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Engelbert Humperdinck in Concert. 5.15-5.45 Survival. 6.00 News. 6.05 Crossroads. 6.30-7.00 ATV Today. 11.40 News. 11.45-12.15 am Country Music.

Tyne Tees
As Thames except: Starts 9.20 am The Good Word. 9.25-9.30 North East News. 1.20 pm North East News. 1.25-1.30 Where the Jobs Are. 2.45-3.45 Danger UXB: "Butterfly Winter". 6.02 Crossroads. 6.25-7.00 Northern *Life.* 11.40 *Camera.* 12.10 am Women's World of Prayer. 12.15 Closedown.

Entertainments Guide

Classified Guide

Box No. replies should be addressed to:
The Times, P.O. Box 7, New Printing House Square, Gray's Inn Road, London, WC1X 8EZ.

How to Place a Classified Ad.

To place an advertisement in any of these categories, tel.:

Private Advertisers Only	01-837 3311
Appointments	01-278 9161
Property Estate Agents	01-278 9231
Personal Trade	01-278 9351
Manchester Office	061-834 1234

The deadline for all copy is one clear publishing day. i.e. Monday is the deadine for Wednesday, Friday for Monday & Tuesday. Stops and Alterations to copy is 3.0 p.m. prior to the day of publication; for Monday's issue the deadline is 12 noon Saturday. On all cancellations a Stop Number will be issued to the advertiser. On any subsequent queries regarding the cancellation, this Stop Number must be quoted.
Queries in connection with advertisements that have appeared, other than cancellations or alterations, tel.:
Classified Queries Department 01-837 1234, Extn 7180
All advertisements are subject to the conditions of acceptance of Times Newspapers Limited, copies of which are available on request.

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Personal Columns	£3.25 per line (min 2 lines) £17.50 per cm semi-display (min 3cms) £20.00 per full display (min 3 cms)
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Applications to: D. S. A. Johnson, 200 Sloane Street, London, S.W.1.

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We are the European headquarters of an American company located in N.W.4. We require the following:

1. P.A./SECRETARY to the General Manager—£6,500 p.a. We are looking for an efficient and intelligent person with top-class secretarial skills who can work on own initiative and have a responsible attitude towards work. This position requires someone with bookkeeping experience, shorthand and, if possible, experience with a company having subsidiaries or distributors in Europe. Knowledge of French would be an asset.

2. SALES SECRETARY—£5,500 per annum. This position requires somebody with sales orientation and previous experience working for the headquarters of a company giving sales and marketing support to a European network of subsidiaries and distributors. Good shorthand and audio skills and a knowledge of French required.

Please apply in writing with c.v. to Box 2629 F, The Times.

ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL
(University of London)
LONDON SE1 7EH

DEAN'S SECRETARY
required

Apart from the normal secretarial duties for the Dean, the appointee will be responsible for Student Admissions. Salary scale £5,972-£6,851 p.a. inclusive. Would probably appeal to experienced younger person. **Applications in writing to Mrs. Dear, Dean's Office.**

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
c. £6,000 Belgravia

Compact international marketing company with three busy executives needs a hard-working secretary with training and experience in all secretarial skills; typing, sh/audio, telex (willing to learn), travel arrangements, office administration, etc. You'll be in contact with group offices and clients worldwide, either on the phone or when they call in, so you need an outgoing, friendly personality and smart appearance.
The work is hard and varied, so you will need an industrious and tidy mind, a penchant for systems and procedures, and the initiative to handle problems immediately they arise.

Ring Robin Sinclair-Lee 01-730 6252

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is required by the Chairman, Directors and their immediate assistants at the head office of an international electronics company. Duties are wide ranging and interesting and offer plenty of scope for initiative. High salary to the right applicant. Apply in writing to the **Managing Director, Eurotherm International Ltd., 8 High Street, Worthing, West Sussex.**

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If you are a highly competent and well organized senior secretary and want to work in Park Lane, our new Group Finance Director would like to meet you. You will have excellent shorthand and typing skills and be willing to become involved in the various day-to-day activities within the department. Knowledge of audio desirable.
Excellent company benefits are offered including free lunch, discounts on hotel accommodation, holiday and consumer goods.
Further details please contact Judith Fisher at Trusthouse Forte Limited, 7 Hanover Square, London, W.1. Tel. 01-493 8121. NO AGENCIES PLEASE.

ST JAMES'S
£7,000

The senior partner of this prestige firm of consultants needs a quick witted, flexible and people orientated secretary to deal with his international clients. Top level candidates, and to assist him in his research. 'A' level speeds 100/60. Age 22 to 35.

RECEPTIONIST
£6,000

A well spoken and an excellently presented receptionist is needed for a small international company. Typing preferred. Age 25 to 45.

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Recruitment Consultants
629 9686
166 Piccadilly

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Chairman of an international manufacturing company requires an experienced, well educated PA/Secretary, equally at home with business and social affairs, to assist in his plans for company expansion.
The following attributes are desirable:
- ★ A good business mind.
- ★ Willingness to travel in the UK and abroad.
- ★ Current driving licence.
- ★ A working knowledge of one or two European languages.
- ★ An attractive personality able to organise company and social events and entertain top executives at their chalet in Oxford and yacht in the Mediterranean.

The ideal candidate will have a wide cross-section of business, leisure and sporting interests which will be well rewarded with a starting salary of not less than £3,000 p.a., with many fringe benefits including a clothes allowance and accommodation arrangements in London, Oxford and Wales.

For confidentiality telephone after 7 p.m.: Joy Lawrence 01-995 0622.

FIRST JOB
£4,500-£5,000

This is much more than a shorthand and typing job. You will be involved in lots of administration as well as telephone work, arranging meetings, filing and handling some correspondence. We need an above-average college leaver or someone with a little office experience who is bright and cheerful and prepared to work hard and join in with the department. The company builds hospitals both in the U.K. and abroad. Beautiful offices for 100 staff located near Regent's Park.

Ring 437 1126
Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

£7,000 LIAISON

With 10 offices worldwide, the task of co-ordination is great. Our client provides a service for people in the public eye and needs a Secretary/P.A. to act as the kernel. Flexibility of approach and a gregarious personality.

Directors' Secretaries
Tel: 01-629 9323

The second rung up the ladder
PROPERTY INVESTMENT

This newly-established company requires a young Assistant Secretary for their two chief executives to work in their luxurious offices overlooking the river. Lots of travel arrangements and client contact. A good educational background and excellent secretarial skills (100/60) are essential. Salary negotiable to £5,500.
Ring Elizabeth Moon.

SENIOR SECRETARIES
Recruitment Consultants
3/6 Trump Street EC2V 8DA
01-606 1611

BERKELEY SQUARE
£6,000+

A little bit of everything is involved in this job working as Secretary to a charming senior director of an international trading company. You will need to have the confidence to greet visitors and the adaptability to butler the occasional sandwich! There will be some personal work and record-keeping. He travels widely and you must take the responsibility of planning his itineraries and handling correspondence in his absence. Shorthand speed will need to be 100 and typing 60 words per minute. Ideal age range 22 to 28.

Ring 437 1126
Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

NEW APPOINTMENT
£6,500

Leading American Company, currently expanding their European operation, seeks a versatile and well-groomed Secretary/P.A. (25-28). You will set up and run the office, deal with clients, carry out routine secretarial work (shorthand) and generally act as right-hand to the M.D. Elegant offices, S.W.1.

Career plan Ring 734 4284
Recruitment Consultants

ECONOMICS GRADUATE WITH SHORTHAND

This is a wonderful opportunity for you if you have those two essential qualifications. As P.A. to the M.D. of a leading publishing and travel group in W.1 you will be able to use your experience and take advantage of very valuable benefits in addition to a salary of up to £6,250. Preferred age early twenties. Ring Annie Rogers.

SENIOR SECRETARIES
Recruitment Consultants
173 New Bond Street W1Y 9PB
01-499 0092 : 01-493 5907

Princess Grace Hospital
London, W1
DIRECTOR'S PERSONAL SECRETARY

An opportunity to assist the Director of this private hospital will arise soon. If you have initiative and discretion and are able to offer good shorthand and typing speeds then call Mrs Carole Cohen on 01-486 1234 ext 4014 for further details. An attractive range of benefits are available and written applications should be sent to the Hospital Director, 42/52 Nottingham Place, W1.

SECRETARY
with languages
MAYFAIR

Smart and intelligent secretary required for friendly and dynamic international management consultancy. Will be required to copy type (50+ wpm) in French and German, take care of travel arrangements, but no shorthand! Salary £5,500+. Please ring Jill Grewal on 01-408 0797.

UNUSUAL JOB
CERTIFICATION ASSISTANT

Assisting with processing of applications for training certificates to meet the new NHS regulations. Confidential work. Must be methodical and accurate. Audio typing. Age 22-30. Salary £5,000 + LVs.

Write to Mrs. H. Gittins, JCPTGP, Royal College of General Practitioners, 14 Princes Gate, London SW7 1PU.

SHORTHAND/AUDIO TYPIST

Experienced shorthand audio typist required for small, busy office, dealing with Middle and Far East. Preferred age 21-24. Good salary and excellent benefits including free travel to and from work. Please apply to Miss E. Warrack, Landoil, New Bond Street House, 1/5 New Bond Street, London W1. Tel: 01-493 2413.

£7,000

Leading City Merchant Bank wishes to recruit a Senior Secretary/Assistant aged 30-40. This responsible post calls for involvement with the shareholders and Directors, organisation of board papers, reports, minutes, etc.
Ideally Banking Company Secretary experience combined with Sec. skills, admin. background essential. Subsidised mortgage, LVs, BUPA, pension, etc.

Dulcie Simpson 405 7711
David White Associates Ltd.
Rec. Cons.

SEC/PA—c £6,500
MARKETING

A Director of this large Marketing Company near Liverpool Street requires a competent Secretary with good sh/typing skills to assist in all aspects of this busy and varied job. You will undertake a wide range of secretarial and administrative duties and must have an excellent educational background. Hours 9 to 5, plus good company benefits.

Ring 628 4835
Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

PA/Secretary
£6,000 p.a.

To MD Tax and Financial Consultancy. Pleasant West End offices. Some organisational and administrative ability and above average secretarial skills. Age 25-35.

Telephone Rumina Dewshi.
629 7938

£6,000+
PA/SECRETARY

for young director of fast moving advertising Agy. Good education and secretarial skills. Personality plus initiative and flair. A sense of humour essential.

Ann Petrie
499 0017

AMERICAN LAW FIRM

desires first class audio typist/secretary for cheerful modern offices near Piccadilly. 4 weeks holidays, LVs and £5,800 pa.

For further details please phone Miss Carrington on 839 3226.

DIRECTORS P.A./SEC

22-47. £6,500 plus early review and bonus. Main board Director of well established City insurance brokers requires a person with good shorthand and audio skills and the ability to organize and liaise at all levels. Would ideally suit a person who enjoys involvement.

Telephone Miss Morris on
626 8524
D.T. Selection Rec. Con.

INTERESTED IN BANKING?

Two senior executives in a very well-known merchant bank in the City requires a young energetic Secretary to organise their busy day. O level standard education, excellent secretarial skills (100/60) and enthusiasm will earn you excellent perks and a salary of £5,000 p.a. Please phone Elizabeth Moon.

SENIOR SECRETARIES
Recruitment Consultants
3/6 Trump Street EC2V 8DA
01-606 1611

PERSONNEL
£5,800

Down to earth flexible "X" secretary graduate 25+ with very good typing and an interest in Personnel for large West End company.

01-730 5148 (24 hrs)
Consultants
JAYGAR CAREERS LTD

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Interior design company, SW1, seek part-time, 10 am-4.30 pm, experienced person, PMBX 4 x 18 switchboard, £3,750 pa + luncheon vouchers

Tel: Miss Rhodes
BLANCHARDS
01-235 6612

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Experienced secretary for international law firm. Salary £6,000. 4 weeks holiday. £1 per day LVs. IBM Golfball.

Contact
Gloria Perry 839 3226

P/A Administration/ Personnel
SALARY UP TO £6,000

A high calibre individual is required to fill the appointment of Personal Assistant to the Partner in charge of Administration and Personnel of a major firm of property developers in central London. Previous experience unnecessary but must have character personality and a sense of responsibility. Shorthand not needed but must be able to type. Age 22 plus.
Contact Miss Leigh Davidson 01-405 6344

CLERICAL SECRETARY
£6,000

Your fast typing, eye for detail and pleasant manner will be fully appreciated by this initial consultancy firm, based near Bond Street. Duties will include dealing with clients on the telephone and in person, processing applications and handling correspondence. Very friendly company with smart offices. For further information, contact

437 1126
Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

RIGHT ARM NEEDED

To help Managing Director of established Insurance Brokers in EC3. Although shorthand and Audio Typing is needed, it certainly isn't all day. Efficiency plus a lively personality, a candidate aged 25/45, to earn c. £7,000 + benefits.
Please call Barbara Speck, 734 5266 or send c.v. to Grade One, 231 Oxford Street, W.1. (Rec Cons.)

SECRETARY
MERCHANT BANK
£6,500 + mortgage and usual bank benefits

Young (early 20's) Secretary with fast accurate typing plus shorthand to join Latin American department of prestigious merchant bank in the City. Working closely with one other secretary, you will be fully involved in a team of four executives who travel a great deal. Knowledge of Spanish helpful ('O' level sufficient).
For further information about this vacancy and other secretarial P.A. opportunities in the City, please contact Sheelagh Marwood on 01-588 3991.

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Confident Cook required for small but busy catering company. Particularly for directors lunches and some cocktail parties. Must be experienced and own car. Flexible working days and top pay.
Ring Roz Roberts 01-352 1725

SALES EXECUTIVE
£9,000
SLOUGH BASED

My client urgently seeks one other bright, self-motivated Executive with fluent French or German to supplement his fast-expanding team, essential requisites are the ability to initiate and expand client liaison, mature, technical background and a clean driving licence.
Please call Anne Beck
56-60 Houndsditch, E.C.3



Graduate Girls Secretarial
01-621 0566

KATZ VAUGHAN MEYER AND FELTHAM
require
SECRETARY

To work in their West End architectural practice. Experience of working in an architectural office might be an advantage. Please phone 734 6401 for interview.

FULHAM
NR. PUTNEY BRIDGE

Experienced Sec. 23+ for Consulting Engineer in international oil and gas practice. Fluency German or French an advantage. Some translation and contract admin., occasional telex and word processing.
Write D. Keens, King-Wilkinson Ltd., 142-144 New Kings Road, London SW6, or phone 731 4346.

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Requires
SECRETARY
for Consular Section.

Graduate preferred, salary according to qualifications and experience.
Tel. 493 6030, extension 4.

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£6,000 neg.

Our client is a Director of an International company. He requires a PA/Sec (90/50). Confident, outgoing personality (24+) to handle confidential work plus his social commitments.
LONDON TOWN STAFF BUREAU
01-836 1994

La creme de la creme
also on page 29

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AN OUTSTANDING PROPERTY

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